

WBJ
R332
1831

ARMY MEDICAL LIBRARY

FOUNDED 1836



WASHINGTON, D.C.

✓
THE
REFORMED PRACTICE
OF
MEDICINE,

**AS TAUGHT AT THE REFORMED MEDICAL COLLEGES IN THE
CITY OF NEW YORK, AT WORTHINGTON, OHIO, AND
ALL THE REFORMED SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED
STATES.**

CONTAINING
ALL THE PRACTICE OF DR. BEACH OF NEW YORK,
OF THE CELEBRATED DR. BONE OF NEW JERSEY,
AND OTHER CELEBRATED BOTANIC
PRACTITIONERS.

—◆—
Two Volumes in one.
—◆—

**BY PROFESSORS AND MEMBERS OF THE
REFORMED MEDICAL COLLEGES
IN NEW YORK AND WORTHINGTON, OHIO.**

**"The science of Medicine, like the Doric Column, should stand
SIMPLE, PURE, and MAJESTIC, having FACT for its basis, IN-
DUCTION for its pillar, and TRUTH alone for its capital."**

BOSTON, 1831,

WBJ
R332
1831

20

Southern District of New-York, ss.

BE IT REMEMBERED, That on the twenty-eighth day of November, Anno Domini 1831, HERVEY WHITING, of the said district, hath deposited in this office the title of a Book, the title of which is in the words following, to wit:

"The Reformed Practice of Medicine, as taught at the Reformed Medical Colleges in the city of New-York, at Worthington, Ohio, and all the Reformed Schools in the United States. Containing all the practice of Dr. Each, of New-York, of the celebrated Dr. Bone, of New-Jersey, and other celebrated botanic practitioners. Two volumes in one. By Professors and Members of the Reformed Medical Colleges of New-York, and Worthington, Ohio. 'The science of medicine, like the Doric column, should stand simple, pure and majestic, having fact for its basis, induction for its pillar, and truth alone for its capital.'"

In conformity to an act of Congress of the United States, entitled "An Act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts, and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the time therein mentioned." And also to an Act entitled "An Act, supplementary to an Act entitled an Act for the encouragement of learning, by securing the copies of Maps, Charts and Books, to the authors and proprietors of such copies during the times therein mentioned, and extending the benefits thereof to the arts of designing, engraving, and etching historical and other prints," the right whereof he claims as proprietor. In conformity with an Act of Congress, entitled "An Act to amend the several Acts respecting copy-rights."

FREDERICK J. BETTS,

Clerk of the Southern District of New-York.

0021

PREFACE.

In offering this book to the public, we have only to say, that our object is not *money*, (for had that been the case, the course we have pursued would have been an unwise one,) but to put down monopoly. The aphorism that "an institution should rest its merit on its *intrinsic value*," we view as a good one. That nothing should be kept a secret, which is, in any way, calculated to lessen the sum total of human suffering, or promote human happiness, is our *creed*. Nothing could induce a physician to keep a valuable remedy secret, but *interest*—a desire to speculate on the misfortunes or ignorance of others, a principle, every way unworthy of and revolting to a philanthropist, especially at a time when the world is *inundated* with pretended cures, nostrums and specifics, for every ill that flesh is heir to. It is almost a universal trait in the character of botanic physicians, to keep their remedies to themselves, or to enjoin the most profound secrecy on all to whom they communicate a knowledge of their practice. Can this be called by a much softer name than a trick of quackery? We are well aware that it is urged, that, by publishing to the world the use and compound of certain medicines, their value would not be properly appreciated. We are also aware that the *credulous* have often more confidence in a practitioner who *pretending* great knowledge veils his remedies in the shroud of mystery, than in the enlightened and candid physician, who pretends to nothing but what others beside himself know. Such indeed is the thirst "for the marvelous," that the grossest ignorance and most stupid buffoonery in the practice of physic is most amply supported, even in the city of New-York, merely because with brazen impudence it declares itself able, with its secret and magic working *specifics*, to cure consumptions in their last stages, ten or twelve sorts of cancers and scrofula in all its forms, with every

other disease to which frail humanity is incident.

A general diffusion of correct knowledge on the subject of medicine, is the only antidote we know how to apply, let the knowledge of those means which have stood the test of experience go abroad, that the intelligent practitioner may avail himself of the best remedies yet discovered if he will, and let the genuine quack be exposed. If we make pretensions which will not stand the test of scrutiny, let our errors be detected and exposed; if we are honest it will not hurt us, and if we are dishonest, we *ought* to suffer. Actuated by these motives we have consulted no consequences that may follow, but shall boldly rest our cause on the merits of the undertaking, hoping and believing that the world and the cause of medical science will be benefitted by it. The work we now publish proposes to be a reformed system of practice and pharmacy; its principles have been supported by *active* champions, who boldly challenge the medical world to meet them in the field of honorable competition, or on the ground of fair and manly argument. (See the rise and progress of the New-York Medical Institution and Reformed Medical Society of the United States.) This certainly evinces a confidence which ought to be grounded on nothing short of full, complete and long tried success; if it falls short of this, let our pretensions sink to that insignificance to which exposure will most assuredly consign them. The practice of medicine is of too great importance to the health and happiness of mankind, to receive the countenance of the wise and virtuous when based on any thing short of truth and positive knowledge; that progressive knowledge which continually amasses new and important facts as it progresses onward; a knowledge too liberal to be confined within the narrow influence of *prejudice*, and too free to be

locked within the walls of a prison. The slow and painful march of medical science can only be quickened to the summit of perfection, by the united and persevering efforts of the truly enlightened and philanthropic members of the medical fraternity. The work is too vast for any thing short of the accumulated experience of ages to accomplish. Our readers are therefore apprised that the work before them does not profess to be wholly original, but a reformation of abuses, and an important improvement on what has been known before. The attempt has been to introduce what is conceived by many to be a rational, consistent, safe and *efficient* method of curing disease. Much of what is called regular practice has been loudly and emphatically denounced as a curse to the world, which is annually sweeping its hecatombs of victims to the realms "of things lost on earth." *Mercury* the *lancet* and the *knife* are held up to the execration of an abused and martyred people, as the agents of a swift destruction, and many of our modern doctors as the priests of a bloody altar, whilst the simple, pure, and majestic voice of reason is left to wail its notes to the winds. Pause then and consider for it is you that are interested, it is *you* that must now apply the remedy. The long and deep notes of remonstrance which have been sounded in your ears should arouse your attention. Examine then and we will not shrink from your judgment.

In the work of *reformation* in the science of medicine, much is due to Dr. W. Beach, M. D., President of the Reformed Medical College of New-York, for the devotion of his original mind and *extraordinary* talents in the *cause*. Who, in speaking of himself says "As soon as my understanding began to dawn and I was capable of discerning between truth and error, I was convinced that the present practice of **PHYSIC** and

SURGERY so far from being founded on correct principles both in theory and practice, was absolutely a curse to society. This view of medicine arose spontaneously in my mind without having been taught it by others. These sentiments grew with my growth and strengthened with my strength, constant observation confirmed me in the truth of these things and I felt a deep solicitude to effect a reformation." How fully this remarkable genius has kept his early resolution of effecting a reformation, or rather contributing to it, (for many determined and original characters have borne a conspicuous part,) the pages of future history will bear testimony; his persevering and uncompromising mind has kept a steady and unwavering eye on the object in view, that of moulding a new race of practitioners to the principles of the Reformed Practice of Medicine; sufficiently strong and numerous to successfully contend with the united efforts of all opposition, a gigantic and heroic determination worthy of a *good cause*. To this most extraordinary individual the world is indebted for almost numberless pages, newspaper columns and circulars, on the subject of reform and the abuses of modern practice, evincing a great originality, peculiar tact and industry.

Dr. Tidd, of New-Jersey, to whom belongs the honor of being the first medical instructor of our worthy President, was one of the early and talented reformers. Dr. Bone, of New-Jersey, is another who is remembered with gratitude by many. Samuel Thompson, of New-Hampshire, Dr. Steward, of Maine, Dr. Barber, late of New York, and Dr. Elisha Smith, with many others, have been active laborers in the great work of promoting *botanical knowledge* and the blessings of an *improved system of medical ethics*.

INDEX TO VOL. I.

	Page		
Asthma,	4	Gastritis,	43
Ascites,	5	Gout,	55
Anasarca,	6		
Apoplexy,	61	H.	
Asphyxia,	66	Heat in cure of fevers, and other	19
Amenorrhoea,	7	complaints,	44
Aptha,	76	Hepatitis,	57
Angini Pectoris,	77	Hydrocephalus,	58
		Hydrothorax,	64
		Hysteria,	64
B.			
Blood Letting, pernicious effects of	17	I.	
Bleeding, at the nose	70	Influenza,	36
Do. from Penis,	78	Indigestion,	67
C.			
Cynanche Tonsillaris,	51	Jaundice,	64
Do. Maligna,	55		
Consumption,	58	L.	
Cystitis,	45	Liver Complaint,	44
Cholic. Bilious,	46	Le.orrhoea,	74
Do. Painters,	47		
Do. Wind,	48	M.	
Cholera Morbus,	54	Mercury, ill effects of,	15
Chorea,	65	Mumps,	36
Convulsions,	67	Measles,	57
		Mania,	65
D.		Menses, suppression and retention of	71
Dysentery,	59	Menorrhagia,	78
Diarrhea,	52		
Dropsy,	60	P.	
Do. Abdomen,	59	Perspiration, effects of in cure of fe-	19
Do. Chest,	58	ver and other diseases,	31
Do. Brain,	57	Phrenitis,	37
Derangement,	65	Pleurisy,	37
Dispepsia,	67	Pneumonia lungs,	42
Distufa,	69	Furunculosis,	43
Diabetes	70	Pericarditis,	63
		Palsy,	63
E.		Paralysis,	63
Ear, Inflammation of,	33	Palpitation of the Heart,	78
Enteritis,	48		
Epilepsy,	62	Q.	
Epistaxis,	70	Quinsey,	34
F.		R.	
Fever, general doctrine of,	13	Rheumatism,	54
Do. observation on treatment,	14		
Do. Continued,	22	S.	
Do. Intermittent,	25	Small Pox,	56
Do. Remittent,	27	St. Vitus' Dance,	65
Do. Scarlet,	28	Spitting blood,	75
Do. Miliary,	29	Sick head ache,	78
Do. Yellow,	30		
Do. Puerperal,	32	T.	
Face, inflammation of,	34	Throat sore,	35
Flooding,	78		
Fluor Albus,	74	V.	
		Vomiting blood,	75
		Do. co.	40
		W.	
		Whites,	74
		Worms,	75

INDEX TO VOL. II.

	Page		
Amaurosis,	34	Carbuncle,	35
Burns,	16	Coxalgia,	42
Broken breast,	24	Cataplasm,	59
Bilious physis,	52	Costs,	65
Balsams	70	Do. Vegetable,	65
Do. Pulmonary,	70	Do. Mineral,	65
Do. of Honey,	70	Do. Milder,	66
Do. Smith's,	70	Decoctions,	61
Bone's practice,	73	Do. Dunctic,	61
Barber,	79	Do. Rheumatic,	61
Contusions,	8	Do. Daphoretic,	62
Cancer,	12	Do. Urinary,	62
		Do. Digitalis,	64

Drops.—Cough,	63	Hydragogue,	16.
Do. Diuretic,	63	Capicum,	16.
Do. Black,	63	Elixions,	65
Do. Tar,	64	Dyspeptic,	16.
Do. Whitwell's,	64	Cough,	59
Erysipelas,	9	Powders,	53
Elixir Salutaris,	49	Plasters,	54
Emul. c. comm. n,	51	Poultices,	59
Extracts	62	Pile. troches,	62
Do. Bloodroot,	63	Physic, laxativizing,	68
Do. Genuin,	63	Rickets,	25
Eye Water,	72	Red Drops,	50
Do. Mineral,	72	Restorative Cordial,	68
Do. Spiritus,	72	Relaxing Oil,	72
Do. Stimulating,	72	Scrofula,	13
Fistula in Ano,	19	Syphilis,	16
Fractures,	44	Scald Head,	20
Fomentations,	66	Strictures of Anus,	29
Do. Poppy,	66	Do. Urethra,	41
Do. Stimulating,	67	Staphalomia,	33
Do. Mint,	67	Sarcocolla,	43
Gonorrhoea,	18	Salt Rheum,	40
Gargles,	66	Salves, black,	56
Do. Stimulating,	66	Do. green,	57
Do. Cooling,	66	Do. Ward's,	57
Do. Astringent,	66	Syrups,	69
Greene oil,	72	Do. alterave,	69
Hemorrhoids,	21	Do. vegetable,	69
Hydrocele,	26	Do. scrofulous,	70
Hernia,	27	Do. an-ispasmodic,	70
Herpes,	30	Do. expectorant,	70
Hydrophobia,	37	Smith's pulmonary balsam,	70
Hip complaint,	42	Tumours,	11
Mull's Colic Physic,	68	Uinea Capitis,	20
Inflammation,	3	Torticollis,	35
Injection,	67	Tetanus,	38
Do. Soap,	67	Tinctures,	47
Do. Stimulating,	67	Do. Hydragogue,	43
Do. Tobacco,	67	Do. Eotanical,	48
Do. do. Smoke,	68	Do. Lobelia,	48
Liquids,	47	Do. Hops,	48
Rheumatic,	ib.	Do. Balsam Tolu,	48
Marshmal's Pile.	ib.	Do. Myrrh,	48
Stimulating,	ib.	Do. Castor,	49
Laudanum,	49	Do. Cantharides,	ib.
Liniments,	72	Do. Vegetable	ib.
Common,	ib.	Do. Opium	ib.
Mortification,	5	Do. Stramonium	ib.
Mammary abscess,	24	Do. Expectorant	ib.
Mucilage Gum Arabic	64	Do. S. un. Cabbage	50
Slippery Elm,	ib.	do. Istodes Foetides	50
Ophthalmia,	28	do. Golden	ib.
Opacity of Cornea,	31	do. Cohu-h	ib.
Ointments,	57	do. Sudorific	ib.
White.	ib.	do. Wine	ib.
Turpentine,	58	Thomson's composition powders	53
Discutient,	ib.	Troches	62
Yellow,	ib.	Ulcers	4
Tetter,	ib.	Wounds	7
Jedkin's,	59.	White swelling	13
Oil Green,	72	Whitlow	31
Relaxing,	ib.	Wry Neck,	35
Pityriasis,	10	Wine Bitters	51
Piles,	21	Ward's Paste	57
Prolapsus Ani,	22	Washes	71
Uteri,	23	Ophthalmia	ib.
Pharmacy,	47	Yellow	ib.
Paregoric,	49	Mineral	ib.
Pills,	51	Salammoniac	ib.
Nervous,	ib.	Black	ib.
Cicuta	ib.	Astringent.	ib.

REFORMED PRACTICE

OF

MEDICINE.

FEVER.

GENERAL DOCTRINE OF FEVER.

FEVER is that morbid condition of the human system, the presence of which characterises a great number of diseases. It has been a fertile theme for the ingenuity of Physicians to speculate on, in all ages, from the first era of Medical opinions, down to the present time. It is characterized by an attack of shivering or rigors, followed by a hot skin, a quick pulse, and a feeling of languor and lassitude. With such symptoms are usually present, a loss of appetite, thirst, restlessness, and diminished secretions. Chilliness, succeeded by increased heat of the skin, is the first and leading feature of fever.

The chilliness is sometimes so slight, as almost to escape notice; at other times so violent that the subject complains exceedingly of cold; his teeth chatter, his limbs tremble, the skin is pale, rough, and contracted, and a sensation is felt something like cold water trickling down the back.

The duration of the cold stage varies from an hour or two, to two or three days. Though often slight, it is never entirely wanting, and is at all times to be carefully noted by the physician, as marking the precise period of the accession of the fever.

By degrees, the chilliness subsides, and begins to alternate with warm flushes. A heat of above the natural temperature succeeds, and with it, returns the color of the skin; the cheeks become flushed, and the eyes suffused; the features recover their size, and often appear more turgid than in health. The hot stage of fever is then said

14 OBSERVATIONS ON THE TREATMENT.

to be formed, which may go off in a few hours, as in case of an intermittent, or may continue for days or weeks as in common *continued* fever.

The next prominent feature of fever is, the frequency of pulse; this is one of the most constant of the symptoms, and is but seldom wanting. This increase in the velocity of the pulse, varies from a scarcely perceptible increase, to a rapidity which can scarcely be counted. There are likewise other characters in the febrile pulse, distinguished by the terms, hardness, wiriness, fullness, softness and weakness; but as they are not essential to fever, they may more properly be considered under the heads of particular diseases.

The exciting causes of fever are very numerous, and apparently of very opposite characters. External injuries, irritations of various kinds within the body, the free use of wine, and exposure to cold and moisture, are amongst the most obvious. There are likewise what have been called *specific* causes, as marsh-miasmata, contagion and morbid poison.

A FEW GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE TREATMENT OF FEVERS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Fever is a disease, which presents a certain combination of symptoms to destroy life, and the practitioner should only have in view their removal, by the application of such means as are suited to *this* purpose, without regarding what the disease may be sometime *hence*, but what it is *now*. The idea that fever cannot be cut short, is one which is generally advocated by feeble practitioners; by men averse to all energetic measures, and who desire rather to continue in the beaten track, than to advance the science by judicious treatment. The idea that fevers cannot be cut short in their course, and disease arrested, is one which no enlightened practitioner should advocate; its direct tendency is to paralyze the pursuit of new and useful truths, and discourage our best endeavours: but as the means to arrest the progress of disease which have too commonly been resorted to, are not only in general, inadequate, but often highly deleterious and not unfrequently, fatal, we shall here submit a few ob-

servations on the use of Mercury, the Lancet, and the effects of perspiration and heat in the cure of diseases.

ILL EFFECTS OF MERCURY.

Among the numerous *poisons* which have been used for the cure of diseases, there are few, which possess more dangerous powers than *Mercury*. The simplest and mildest forms of the this mineral, are capable, under certain circumstances, not easily detected by the most skillful practitioner, of exerting an influence over the human system, which in the smallest doses ever prescribed, is liable to destroy life.

Practitioners, who stand high in public estimation, prescribe *calomel* and the *blue pill* on every trifling occasion: every unimportant irregularity or functional derangement, must submit to the controuling effect of Mercury in some of its numerous preparations. But when the effects of Mercury upon the human body are accurately investigated, it cannot fail to appear, that irreparable mischief must accrue from its use.

It is our object to illustrate these assertions, for which purpose we avail ourselves of recorded facts; for though a few persons may be found on whom its long continual use appears to have but little effect; their number is extremely small in comparison of those who are seriously affected by very small doses, in a short space of time. Dr. Falconer says, that the indiscriminate use of Mercury, is attended with dangerous effects. Preparations of Mercury exhibited either internally or externally for any length of time, increase the action of the heart and arteries, and produce salivation followed by emaciation and debility, with an extremely irritable state of the whole system. These effects of Mercury are expressly mentioned or virtually admitted by every author, ancient or modern who has directed its use.

The first effect enumerated is an increased action of the heart and arteries, that is, a more than usual rapid circulation of blood, through every part of the body. Accelerated circulation of the blood in consequence of Mercury, exhibits the same buffy crust, with blood drawn from a person, labouring under an attack of pleurisy; whilst the secretions from the skin and kidneys are

greatly increased, but with this difference, that the strength of the patient labouring under pleurisy remains almost unimpaired, while under the influence of Mercury, the general strength rapidly declines. It appears therefore, that the increased action of the heart and arteries, excited by Mercurial medicines, not only produce the same injurious effects upon the body, with those arising from inflammation, but also certain other injurious effects *peculiar* to itself. Salivation or an excessive and unusual flow of saliva, in general follows the increased action of the heart and arteries occasioned by the exhibition of Mercury, and is preceded by a certain metallic taste in the mouth, and a peculiar odor of the breath, different from what is ever perceivable in any natural disease. When individuals in this state, are accidentally exposed to cold, or indulge in irregularities of living, a violent and anomalous indisposition takes place, which is apt to terminate fatally, or to occasion a broken state of health.

The excessive flow of saliva during salivation in consequence of Mercury, is accompanied with a degree of local inflammation of all the parts within the mouth, ulcerations of the gums and loosening of the teeth; and the tongue and palate swell most frightfully.

Dr. Falconer, in the paper alluded to says:—"I might cite all the writers in the *Materia Medica* for authorities, that the continued and frequent use of Mercury is not free from danger—that it tends to produce tremors and paralysis, and not unfrequently incurable mania; that it sometimes embitters life to such a shocking degree, as to make it *more* than probable, that many of the suicides which disgrace our country, were produced by the intolerable feelings occasioned by such a state of the nervous system." To the truth of these remarks every unprejudiced physician of extensive practice must bear testimony. In many cases other deviations from health ensue; among these the most common are excessive diarrheas, accompanied often with profuse discharges of blood; this will sometimes occur, where the mercury is only rubbed on the surface.

Another consequence of Mercury is, violent affections of the skin; the eruption is usually attended with heat,

itching of the skin, a frequent pulse, and a white tongue.

The arguments in favor of the administration of this deleterious article, are "*To supplant disease, by creating a new morbid excitement in the system, more powerful than that which exists,*" and thus by this delusive and absurd theory, excite a new disease, as far worse than the first, as the first was worse than health. These are a few of the injurious effects of this sovereign panacea. Hence we will leave the public to judge of the propriety of the exhibition of such remedies.

PERNICIOUS EFFECTS OF BLOOD-LETTING.

Amongst the evils which embarrass the practice of medicine, and retard that improvement so ardently desired by the enlightened friends of human happiness, none is of such direful import as *prejudice*, the multiplied evils resulting from which, are of vast amount, and many of them of deep and fearful consequence.

The young practitioner is bound under no less penalty than the anathemas of those who have grown grey in the service, to yield unhesitating obedience to the maxims which his *masters* have taught him, in relation to all *important* doctrines in the treatment of disease—whilst on the contrary, let the error be ever so great, or the sacrifice of life ever so prodigal in consequence of it, he stands justified by our self-created *oracles* in medicine. Admitting the truth of this position, what shackles are the young, *enlightened* and industrious physicians subjected to, if they dare assume a *rational* and independent course of practice;—hunted down as fit subjects of ridicule, and almost certain destruction. Prejudice, operates more banefully than positive ignorance, inasmuch as it disposes its victim to yield his own judgment to the theoretical speculations of the Pathologist, the dogmas of the Rotinist, or the Panaceas of the Nostrum Monger; in all which cases it disqualifies him for being a safe practitioner. The Pathological speculation of the *incompatibility* of diseases, has led its votaries into many absurdities in practice, from the conclusion, that but one disease can be active at a time, on the same subject, when every body knows that Itch, Remittent fever and scrofula may be

active at the same time, on the same subject, and we have the authority of Dr. Rush, that a prevailing epidemic, may assume the livery of the various diseases incident to the season. But in nothing has the destructiveness of prejudice been more severely felt than in the almost canonical doctrine, that in all diseases, where arterial excitement existed in considerable degree, blood must flow in copious streams. If the circulation becomes embarrassed, *bleed*—the symptoms must justify any consequences which may chance to follow ; no time is lost in the enquiry whether such symptoms may not be a *consequence* of disease, which may only require some simple counteracting medicine, after which the constitutional symptoms will speedily subside. No, says our theorist, prompt and copious bleeding is the only safe and certain means of reducing the *alarming excitement*, and often, we believe, a more *permanent means* than our practitioner could easily find sufficient excuse for ; as witness its almost certain destruction of life, during the prevalence of the Typhus Fever, in the New England States, a few years since, and the blind infatuation of a majority of the physicians, until the death-knell of thousands of their patients awoke them to a sense of their desolating mistake. Is the question asked why they so long persisted in the practice of venesection ? the answer is ready, the disease almost uniformly commenced with inflammatory symptoms, and they knew at the time no other remedy, or rather dare not hazard their reputation in a departure from the dictates of a prejudice, which had been so long sanctioned. We do not wish to be understood as altogether condemning the use of the lancet in those cases where the sound unprejudiced practitioner may determine its propriety after medicine has been given ; but in fevers generally, the loss of blood must be condemned, as a wanton waste of the sustaining element of life, except in some urgent cases where it appears to be almost the only means of promoting the operation of medicine ; then bleed, for that intention alone, and in quantity only sufficient to accomplish it ; after the medicine has remained a sufficient length of time in the system, to determine that it would not produce the desired effect without it. May we not regard this as the *only* certain indication of the propriety of ven-

esection and as a plain self-evident rule to govern our practice in it?

It is not our purpose to invoke the manes of the departed, or ransack the pages of history, to make a long and fearful catalogue of evidences against this sanguinary practice;—enough has transpired within the observation of all who *will see*, to convince them, of its often fatal effects. To the victims of an old and venerated prejudice, we can only say, that a new generation may possibly assume the responsibility of acting rationally. Our object is to call to mind the *evil*, and disclose what we conceive experience to have demonstrated as a *remedy*.

ON THE EFFECTS OF PERSPIRATION AND HEAT IN THE CURE OF FEVERS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The contracted limits of this work will scarcely allow us to take into consideration this highly important, and very interesting subject. A few brief observations will be made, though they may appear in some measure inconclusive; yet in favor of which, there may be arguments adduced, incontrovertible. A long prelude of fact, theories, and detail of experiments are necessary, in order to secure due appreciation, which can only be admitted in systematic works.

It seems astonishing, that so powerful remediate agents, for the alleviation of morbid phenomena, should be so heedlessly resorted to. Cutaneous transpiration has numerous uses in the animal economy, the most prominent of which are, by evaporation along with that of the lungs, the principal means of cooling, by which the body maintains itself within certain limits of temperature, also its expulsion from the economy appears very important, for every time it is diminished or suspended, derangements of more or less consequence follow, and many diseases are not arrested until a considerable quantity of sweat is expelled. It has been determined by the experiments of Lavoisier and Seguin, that there is from two to seven pounds, of humorous, insensible, cutaneous transpiration in twenty-four hours, in a healthy person. It liberates the blood from superfluous animal gas, azote and water, eliminates the noxious and heterogeneous excrements, and coun-

terbalances suppressed pulmonary transpiration of the lungs.

Heat is the natural stimulus of the body, without which the vital functions cannot be exercised. The saying "I have taken cold" is very common, but no one complains "I have taken heat." It is known by all, that heat expands all bodies, and that cold, or the abstraction of heat, contracts all bodies, to a greater or less degree. The matter of the living system is not exempt from these laws. By the operation of an increased degree of heat, all its tissues are expanded; on the contrary cold contracts and condenses them all, by bringing their particles into closer contact with each other.

The extreme vessels are so situated as to feel very sensibly the effects of heat and cold. The skin is a tissue, so *extremely vascular*, that the most circumscribed parts cannot be pierced without effusion of blood. Consider its great expansion, and surface it covers, and the vast quantity of this fluid it must contain, and the necessity of a maintainance of its functions to secure the health of the system; consequently, when it is made to recede from the surface and extremities, which is the effect of cold, and if too long continued, so rigidly contracts the vessel, that they refuse receiving the fluid sent to them; it is poured upon organs deep seated, engorges their vessels, deranges their functions, creates congestions, effusions, inflammation, and by re-action, fever. If any point or deep seated organ is so unfortunate as to be predisposed to disease, by vascular relaxation, or enfeebled vital power, it speedily becomes a prey to its ungenerous ravages. Such frequently is the state of the lungs, brain and liver, inducing pleurisy, disordered respiration, pneumonia and consumption, cerebral congestion, hemorrhages, hydrocephalus, and inflammation, hepatitis, also gastritis, cholic, dysentery, cholera morbus. &c. &c. In fact to sum the matter up, cold is one of the most prolific causes of the diseases incident to the human system. It invariably degenerates nervous energy and tends to produce a general torpor; whereas heat on the contrary not only stimulates the nerves, but augments their vital sensibility. By what has been said the necessity of promoting perspira-

tion, and establishing an equilibrium in the circulating mass, will be readily conceived, in the treatment of disease; the contrary of which are two of the most prominent characteristics, of all the morbid phenomena incident to the human system.

When therefore these derangements exist, or disease has resulted from the direct influence of cold; what should be the first object of the physician? should it not be, as promptly as possible the substitution of heat, to counteract, or arrest the operation of the cause? and thus break up the train of morbid phenomena which are following each other in rapid succession? It will be necessary in many cases to resort to a degree of heat as far above that to which the surface is accustomed, as the temperature which produced the disease may have been below it. In this way, a series of vital action will be produced directly the reverse of that produced by the cause of the disease. If the blood has been driven from the surface to the deep organs; if nervous excitement or, irritation has been translated by cold to the sensitive organs within, then will heat relieve the heart and great vessels, the liver, lungs, brain &c. by deriving from them the load of blood which oppresses them. The vessels of the surface will be dilated and filled, and incipient congestions and inflammations be promptly relieved. A similar revulsion will be produced in the nervous system. Nervous influence will be diverted from the centre to the surface. The sensibilities of the extreme nerves will be roused, and an equality of nervous excitement will then be produced.

The means we usually make use of, for the purpose of promoting perspiration, equalising circulation, and excitement, are the vapour bath, warm bath of water, foot bath, warm fomentations, spunging, or bathing the surface with tepid weak ley, hot billets of wood, bricks or any convenient article, plunged into hot water and wrapt in cloths, placed around the patient, the exhibition of warm diluent drinks and sudorific tinctures &c. &c. as will be seen in the following pages. The vapour bath is made by boiling the articles for the common fomentation (see pharmacy,) in a sufficient quantity of water, after which it should be poured into a suitable tub, in which there

should be placed a small stool or strip of board laid across, on which the patient is to sit ; around him is to be thrown blankets, his feet should be placed in warm water or ley, his head may be covered some part of the time. He should continue in this situation for the space of fifteen minutes or half an hour, or longer as circumstances may be. In the mean time it may be necessary to give warm drinks in some cases. After perspiration is freely promoted he should be placed in bed and covered warm. These observations are not only applicable to the treatment of fevers in general, but to all other diseases incident to the human system.

CONTINUED FEVER.

Many changes have taken place in the views of physicians with regard to continued fevers. The almost infinite varieties of symptoms by which they are characterized, has afforded matter for the ponderous volumes of Nosologists, and has afforded them a wide field, in which to display the accumen of their talents, in classification and history. That some forms of continued fever show symptoms of strong inflammatory action, while others exhibit marks of depressed nervous energy, and a tendency to *putrescence* is obviously true, and may require a slight difference in treatment, which must necessarily be regulated by the judgment of the practitioner.

The symptoms of common continued fever are, the pulse at first is frequent and strong, but by degrees it loses its strength, without diminishing its frequency. The duration of the disease is various, but when once the symptoms subside convalescence is usually rapid.

The invasion of inflammatory fever is generally very sudden, is marked by excessive prostration of strength, with some shivering, soon succeeded by a violent heat of the skin, pain in the back, head ache, giddiness, and general uneasiness. The head ache is very acute, the eyes are suffused, and cannot bear the light ; the countenance flushed ; the temporal and carotid arteries beat violently. There is often bleeding at the nose, restlessness and occasionally, but not constantly, delirium. The tongue becomes rapidly coated with a thick fur, nausea, vomiting

of bile, great thirst, and a costive state of the bowels prevail. The pulse varies from 100 to 120, strong, full, and regular. The pulse is *sometimes* weak, small, and depressed. The respirations are quick, the skin hot, and excessively dry, the urine scanty and highly colored. The above may be considered an outline of the inflammatory symptoms in nearly all latitudes.

In Typhus Fever, the characteristic symptoms are often unsusceptible of accurate description, and of these the most remarkable is the *expression of countenance* so uniform, as to make all typhoid patients in a great degree resemble each other. It is a very peculiar expression of *anxiety*, joined to a flushed appearance of the cheeks. It is seldom wanting, and constitutes in fact a striking characteristic of Typhus. The pulse in this fever is very frequent, generally averaging from 120 to 130, small and weak. As the disease advances, it becomes intermittent and irregular. These symptoms increase, until the extremities become cold some hours before death. The breathing is frequent, weak, interrupted by sighing, and a dry cough; the voice is low, weak, shriller and harsher than natural. The tongue, at first white, and very much coated, becomes in the progress of the disease, brown, or almost black; it is dry and parched; occasionally, instead of being coated, it appears chapped and firm, or smooth and preternaturally red. Black sordes collect round the teeth. There is a difficulty of swallowing from the dryness of the throat, sometimes from convulsion in its muscles. The evacuations from the bowels are extremely foetid, and often black and mixed with blood. Diarrhœa, almost always attends the last stage of typhus; the bowels are distended with wind, and the danger is in proportion to this last symptom.

CONTINUED FEVER TREATMENT.

The treatment of this fever and others similar, is to be governed by a consideration of accompanying symptoms. The promotion of perspiration, and equalization of fluids and excitement, are the most prominent indications to fulfil. If in the onset, perspiration can be freely induced, by proper means, it will usually promptly arrest a further

progress. It is a fact, familiar to all, that, though a fever may be left to run a course, as soon as moisture is discovered on the surface, all the most annoying symptoms subside;—Hence the propriety of effecting that in the commencement, and endeavour if possible to counteract the disease; as in fever, there is always a combined influence of symptoms to destroy life. Some little theory or argument has been advanced in favor of perspiration in the cure of diseases, but in one sense such is useless. It is enough for us to know the effects of a remedy, if the *modus operandi* is not obvious. Our motto will be examples in preference to precepts.

The bowels should be evacuated freely with the bilious physic. If there should be symptoms of a collection of morbid matter in the stomach, one of the emetic powders (see phar.) may be exhibited first. Boneset tea, at the same time, should be freely drank. When there is delirium or symptoms of a great determination of blood to the brain, the feet should be soaked in warm weak ley, and cold lotions applied to the head, and the back of the neck cupped, blistered or poulticed with a mustered or cayenne pepper poultice.

Should fever continue, the surface should be bathed or spunged from head to foot, once in two or three hours through the day, as long as the skin is dry. If there is nausea and vomiting, soda powders, or small doses of saleratus in water, may be given; the bowels should be kept open by the bilious or white liquid physic. Diet light; as a common drink, a decoction of pleurisy root, amaranthus, or lemonade is the best. If restlessness, clovers powders. The room should be well ventilated. Too much company should not be allowed.

In that form of fever, more strictly called nervous, and typhus, great advantage will often arise from cold effusion. This is done by spunging the surface with cold water or ley, or placing the patient on a suitable bed, and throwing several quarts of cold water on him. This, indirectly, acts as a stimulus, and has a remarkable effect to rouse the system when re-action takes place. In this form of fever, much purging is not necessary. Steam-bath improper.

In what is called typhus gravior, or putrid fever, where

putrescent symptoms appear, antiseptics are indicated. Yeast should be administered in combination with Sweet or Castor Oil. The treatment of inflammatory fever will necessarily be prompt. Blood must be taken in some cases, in order to relieve the head.

INTERMITTENT FEVER.

Intermittents are readily distinguished from every other form of idiopathic fever, by their occurrence in paroxysms, exhibiting in the course of about eight hours, all the stages of fever, its rise, progress and termination in recovery of health. The symptoms which occur in a paroxysm of Intermittent Fever, divide themselves obviously into the *cold*, the *hot* and the sweating stages. The hot stage is usually attended with nausea and vomiting, scanty and high colored urine, a humid breathing, considerable headache, throbbing of the temples, confusion of thought, or even delirium. The febrile symptoms generally abate, are followed by perspiration, and the pulse returns to the natural standard. After a certain interval, the same train of symptoms return; when the paroxysm returns in twenty-four hours, it is called a quotidian; in forty-eight hours, the tertian, in seventy-two hours the quartian. When this disease occurs in the spring, it is called vernal ague, and in the fall, autumnal. The remittent type of this disease, occurs chiefly in hot countries, and is known by the febrile symptoms, abating only in a greater or less degree between the paroxysms; but they do not go entirely off.

FEVER TREATMENT.

The treatment of this disease divides itself into two parts. The treatment during the paroxysm or fit, and in the intervals between them. During the paroxysm, the great object of the practitioner is, to hasten its different stages, and endeavor to remove urgent symptoms, if any should occur. In the cold stage, let the patient be put into a warm bed; to his feet, and thighs, and body, let

there be applied bottles, filled with hot water, or hot bricks rolled in cloths, danopened with equal parts of vinegar and water. In the meantime, administer warm diluted drinks, such as peppermint, catnip or cupatorium, (hone-set) tea, with a tea spoonful of the red drops or sudorific tincture once in half an hour, or an hour. If the head should be hot and feet cold, the feet may be placed in warm weak ley. If there should be great pain in the head, delirium or coma, sinapisms (mustard poultice,) or a poultice in which there is capsicum, should be prescribed, to be applied to the back of the neck.

An emetic of equal parts of Ipecacuanha and pulverized Lobelia, a small tea spoonful of each, to which may be added two grains of pulverized capsicum, administered just before the fit is anticipated, is often of great benefit. This will frequently prevent the paroxysm, and wholly break up the disease. In all cases previous to the exhibition of this emetic, it is found best to drink about two thirds of a cupful of warm cupatorium tea; then give the emetic in about the same quantity of warm water, sweetened, if the patient should like it best; repeat the dose in half an hour if it should not operate: direct the patient to drink freely of the boneset tea, while the emetic is operating. He need not think it strange if it should feel quite warm in the stomach. Many objections have been raised against the exhibition of Lobelia, but principally, by those that knew but little about the article, which is obvious to any one who makes much use of it. There is not the least danger when judiciously administered. Perhaps it is one of the most valuable medicines that our country affords.

In some cases where there are symptoms of the collection of large quantities of vitiated matter in the stomach, it will be found advisable, after the stomach has been completely evacuated, to follow with a purgative.

In the hot stage, cold acidulated drink and diaphoretics are proper. Such as an infusion of Pleurisy Root, (*Asclepias tuberosa*), Amaranthus, Chamomile, and Lemonade, fifteen or twenty grains of Dovers powders may be given.

In the interval, the great object is to produce some impression on the system, to prevent the developement of

the fever, which may generally be done by the exhibition of the wine bitters, without any other remedy, in doses of half or a whole wine glass, once in two hours through the day. If this should fail, administer two grains of the sulphate of quinine, once in two, three, or four hours, according to the urgency of the case. Keep the bowels free with the bilious physic and dyspeptic pills. If it should prove obstinate, order emetics—from twelve to twenty grains of the spiders web has been recommended. Thompsons composition powders. The Virginia snake root has been used with great success in this disease, it may be combined with equal parts of Peruvian bark, taken in wine, gin or in infusion. Elixor vitriol in doses of 10 or 18 drops may be given in cold water or infusion of Peruvian Bark for the excessive and weakening sweats which often are a concomitant in this disease.

Every means should be taken to give strength to the patient; his diet should be light, easy of digestion, and the most nourishing. Cheerfulness and moderate exercise in pure air is advisable, avoiding the evening and damp air:—his hours should be early.

REMITTENT FEVER.

This fever receives its name from the appearance it preserves throughout its progress, having affinity to both intermittent and continued fevers; but seems more nearly allied to the former than the latter, by being attended with a remission or abatement of the febrile symptoms at irregular periods, and of uncertain duration. This fever in general, may be ascribed to the same causes as intermittent. It commences suddenly with weakness, lowness of spirits, yawning and stretching, pain and giddiness of the head, with alternate fits of heat and cold. Sometimes delirium attends the first attack. There is pain, and sometimes, swelling about the region of the stomach, tongue white, skin frequently yellow, and frequently bilious vomiting; pulse small and quick, seldom full. In some cases, a troublesome looseness attends; at others, the opposite extreme; it is impossible to describe all

the symptoms of this disease as they often vary with the different seasons of the year.

TREATMENT.

The treatment of this disease, is to be regulated by the consideration of those principles which are laid down applicable to the treatment of intermittents and continued fever.

If there are symptoms of severe gastric derangement, such as vomiting of vitiated bile, it will be advisable to exhibit an emetic, following the rules laid down under the head of Intermittents. If it should continue obstinate, troublesome, and annoying to the patient, administer Saleratus in small doses, or other preparations of potash, soda powders, charcoal, pulverized in milk or syrup, weak ley, or an infusion or decoction of the bark of the red rose willow. Direct the common fomentation to be applied to the stomach, or brandy and bruised spearmint. Pediluviums of weak ley to the feet.

Let the patient be purged freely with the bilious, or white liquid physic. The stomach will often retain the latter, when it would reject the former. It should be given, diluted with cold water—the former should have the preference.

It is of the greatest importance where there is much fever, as in the continued fever, to promote perspiration, which will generally give immediate relief and prevent the further advancement of the disease. (For directions, see continued fever.) Dovers powders may be given at night. In convalescence prescribe the wine and vegetable tincture.

SCARLET FEVER.

The Scarlet Fever attacks the skin, the tonsils and the mucus membranes in their neighborhood. In mild cases there is an *effervescence* with little or no affection of the fauces. In very severe cases there is extensive ulceration of the fauces attended with typhoid fever, but with little or no *effervescence*. This is the extreme grade

of the disease and is called *Cynancha*: in the intermediate cases both structures are implicated and the disease is then denominated *Scarletina anginosa*. In its simple form it commences with slight febrile symptoms. The eruption appears about the second day, first about the neck and face in the form of innumerable red points which in twenty-four hours cover the whole body. The color of the eruption is a bright scarlet.

TREATMENT.

If nausea give an emetic, purge with the bilious physic; promote perspiration, by saffron, pleurisy root or amaranthus tea and sudorific tincture. warm foot bath, bathe the surface with ley; poultice the throat if sore with the alkaline poultice; also steam and apply the common liniment to it.

MILIARY FEVER.

The symptoms of Miliary Fever are numerous: small red pustules preceded by a roughness produced by cold appear upon the skin collected sometimes in clusters so prominent as to be distinctly felt but not seen; they produce in ten or twelve hours a whey colored vessicle which soon becomes white when the state of the vessicle is a little more inflammatory the pustules are red and the fluid in them turns yellow, in two or three days they fall off in scales, the fluid is acrid and of a bad smell. The symptoms of fever often increase before the appearance of the eruption; pricking and itching in the skin and bowels, with numbness of the extremities, particularly of the fingers and toes, delirium, pain in the head, ringing in the ears, pungent heat in the breast, a sour rank profuse sweat with a small pulse often precede the eruption: also epilepsy, inflammation of the eyes, with a watery state of them; these symptoms are relieved by the sweat.

A moderate sweat, free breathing, without much debility are favorable symptoms, and the contrary.

TREATMENT.

The treatment of the disease will be governed by general principles. Promote perspiration freely, bathe the surface, evacuate the bowels with the bilious physic, let the patient drink saffron tea.

YELLOW FEVER.

Yellow Fever as is well known prevails epidemically in various situations and is one of peculiar dread from the mortality which marks its ravages. The causes of its appearance have given rise to much controversy. It has been described as intermittent, remittent and continued. Yellowness of the skin is one of its characteristic symptoms; though it often turns its course without exhibiting this symptom, and we have reason to suppose that it often wears the livery or is masked under the symptoms of many other diseases when it prevails epidemically. It is usually ushered in by languor and rigors. There is sometimes a peculiar dejection of countenance observed, with great aversion to the least motion, at other times there is an appearance of intoxication, the face is flushed and a distressing head-ache attends of a peculiar kind, it is severe and referred to the forehead and bottom of the orbits. The eyes appear dull, glassy and suffused. The tongue is at first furred and moist and trembling; by degrees it becomes dry and black or of a fiery red color. To this succeeds great irritability of the stomach which is followed by "black vomit," and a catalogue of distressing symptoms, which vary in different patients until death closes the scene, unless the disease be averted.

The principle of free sweating is no less applicable in the treatment of this disease than in other fevers. This was clearly proved at the time it raged at New-York, several years ago, and needs no comment. If delirium, cup, poultice and blister the back of the neck; bathe the surface with ley—puke and purge.

For the obstinate vomiting which often attends, administer, soda, saleratus, charcoal, &c. When there is a

TREATMENT.

tendency to putrescency, give yeast. Treatment must be prompt.

 PHRENITIS.

Phrenitis or acute inflammation of the brain, or its membranes is a disease so singularly modified in its principal features, by the circumstance of age, as to require to be described separately as it occurs in adults and in children. In adults it is characterised by the following symptoms : violent inflammatory fever, redness of the eyes and face, intolerance of light and sound, great headache with extreme restlessness and above all early and fierce delirium. The acute phrenitis of adults, is a disease of great danger, and it may commence on any of the textures within the cranium.

In children it is termed Hydrocephalus, it prevails chiefly from the third to the sixth year of life; its premonitory stage, is that of common infantile fever such as often accompanies dentition or a foul stomach or disordered state of the bowels, the pulse is quick, the skin hot, sleep disturbed the tongue white, some degree of nausea and vomiting, with thirst, restlessness and want of appetite, the body wastes and the skin is flabby, headache, impatience of light and noise, a flushed countenance, redness of the eyes, contracted pupil, tossing the arms and shrieking without obvious cause with symptoms of infantile fever. In this disease cupping the temples is an important part of the treatment and should be immediately attended to. After this purge freely with the bilious physic, from half to a tea-spoon full of cream of tartar should be occasionally added ; the purging should be repeated as often as every day or every other day as occasion, may require. Emetics in this disease should seldom be given. If the case be urgent shave the head and use the sal-ammoniac wash, to reduce the heat, and apply blisters behind the ears.

In this disease a great determination of blood to the

In this disease a great determination of blood to the head in general exists, and to produce an equilibrium in the circulation is of great importance; to fulfil this indication use the foot bath, made of weak ley or warm water with a handful of salt. Synapisms, (mustard poultice.) Where there is dryness of the skin and fever, sponge the patient with tepid weak ley. Where too much excitement does not exist, give the sudorific tincture in teaspoon full doses once in one or two hours according to circumstances, combined with warm diluent drinks. In cases of restlessness or watchfulness give Dovers Powders, from five to twenty grain doses according to the age of the patient; much benefit may often be expected by applying blisters to the back of the neck. It will often be found necessary to repeat the cupping; much advantage has also been derived from the application of a slippery elm poultice to the head.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Puerperal fever is a disease peculiar to women after delivery, and such is its danger that in the European hospitals it is computed, that three fourths of all who are attacked fall sacrifices to its power.

Puerperal fever generally commences on the second or third day after the delivery, with a chilliness succeeded with pains in the head, ringing in the ears, great anxiety and restlessness; the abdomen soon becomes affected, is extremely painful to the touch and more or less tumefied, severe pain in the back, hips and sometimes legs, with laborious respiration. The milk sudden'y disappears, there is great prostration of strength, depression of spirits and watchfulness; the skin is in some cases natural, at others hot and dry, at first afterwards moist and clammy, with many more symptoms of a violent and rapidly fatal disease.

TREATMENT.

Perhaps there is no disease incident to the human system, which calls for more prompt and decisive treatment

than this. From a consideration of the rapidity, violence, destructiveness and danger in this formidable disease, remedies or means to give immediate relief, should be the paramount, the engrossing subject of thought. The patient should be purged freely with the bilious physic, occasionally combined with cream of tartar. Promote perspiration or moisture on the surface by the exhibition of warm diluent drink and sudorific tincture; the surface should often be bathed or spunged with warm weak ley; foot bath and synapisms to the feet.

But as an external remedy, perhaps the most benefit may be derived from the repeated application of the common fomentation, warm to the abdomen, (belly); also the stimulating fomentation; the discutient green and white ointment may be rubbed over the abdomen, with decided good effect. If there is not too much tenderness and soreness of the abdomen. cup.

Dovers powders or some other anodyne should be given at night: diet light such as barley water, arrow root, tapioca, toast waters &c. &c. If much thirst, a tea of white root or amaranthus may be given.

INFLAMMATION OF THE EAR.

When affected with inflammation, the pain is very acute and severe, attended with more or less fever and on some occasions delirium ensues. This disease may be produced by the same causes with other inflammations, but by none more readily than a partial exposure to cold, as when a current of air is driven forcibly into the ear through narrow crevices in doors or windows &c.

TREATMENT.

In this disease much advantage may be derived from steaming the ear and cupping behind them, but of all applications the following perhaps may be most relied on: bore a hole in an onion and fill it with sweet oil then roast the onion and express the juice to which add a proportion of laudanum, put this into the ear with a little cotton. An onion poultice or roasted onion, applied to the ear is

also good. If these should fail apply a blister behind the ear, and alkaline poultices are often applied with benefit; many encomiums are made on an application of the oil of eels and honey. Anodynes may be often given to advantage as Dovers powders, &c.

INFLAMMATION OF THE FACE.

Inflammation of the face may proceed from all the common causes of inflammation, but in by far the greater number of cases, has its origin in carious or defective teeth.

TREATMENT.

Apply capsicum which has been boiled in a small linen rag to the face also the alkaline poultice, if attended with fever exhibit the sudorific tincture with warm diluent drinks to promote perspiration, likewise the foot bath of weak ley or warm water, when occasioned by a carious tooth much benefit will often be experienced by the application of a few drops of the oil of cloves or a little capsicum to the tooth.

CYNANCHIA TONSILARIS, OR INFLAMMATORY SORE THROAT, QUINCY.

This is an inflammation affecting one or both tonsils, and often extending through the whole of the mucous membrane of the throat and mouth, so as to interrupt the speech and the power of swallowing and of respiration. This disease is commonly occasioned by cold, the sudden vicissitudes of weather, sitting in wet rooms, or other ways giving a sudden check to perspiration. The suppression of accustomed evacuations will likewise produce this disease. This disease is manifest from the redness and heat of the tonsils, dryness of the throat, a quick, hard pulse, and other symptoms of fever.

TREATMENT.

The formidable and distressing symptoms of this disease, may often be obviated by the timely exhibition of an

emetic. The common emetic powder should be given in the usual way. This will produce a determination of the fluids to the surface, and have a tendency to suppress the great febrile excitement which usually attends this local affection. As far as practicable, considering the locality of the disease, all the means recommended for the suppression of febrile excitement should be attended to. Much benefit will be derived from the application of different remedies to the throat, externally as the common lineament, stimulating liquid, green oil, common and alkaline poultice, (see phar.) The inhalations of steam from a decoction of bitter herbs, are of importance. Often through the day, gargles should be used; either stimulating astringent, or antiphlogestic, according to circumstances. Purge occasionally, with the bilious or white liquid physic. Relief may be obtained by puncturing the gland when suppuration is expected to have taken place. Diet should be light. As this disease is brought on by taking cold, great care is requisite on the part of the patient, not to expose himself to a current of cold air, until out of danger, as there is a great susceptibility of relapse.

CYNANCHA MALIGNA ULCERATED SORE THROAT.

This disease comes on with rigors, dejection of spirits, pain in the head and back, giddiness, vomiting, and much general oppression. There is a great determination of blood to the brain, redness of the eyes, intolerance of light, throbbing pain of the head, and delirium or coma. a long and varied train of occasional symptoms are liable to occur, distinctly mentioned by some authors, but of little importance in treatment.

TREATMENT.

The treatment of this disease is similar to that of *Cynancha Tonsillaris*, other than its tendency to gangrene, and sloughing. Antiseptics should be used to counteract this tendency. Use gargle made of hyssop, sage, yeast, and borax. Yeast may be given internally. The following has been used with decided advantage. Cay-

enne, two table spoonsful; salt, equal quantity, in half a pint of boiling water, add the same quantity of vinegar, strain, and take two table spoonsful once in half an hour, as a gargle. Soap and rum melted together, has been recommended.

CYNANCHA PAROTIDIA, OR MUMPS.

This is a contagious disease, affecting mostly children, and young persons. It is known by an external invariable swelling on one side of the neck, and frequently, on both. These tumors occupy the parotid glands, are large, and hard, somewhat painful, and continue to increase until the fourth day, when they, with the attending fever, decline, and soon disappear. After these symptoms have subsided, the *ceratun* in males, and the breast in females, are liable to swell, and become painful, which generally subsides in a few days.

TREATMENT.

Melted sugar put on scorched wool, should be applied to the part affected.

INFLUENZA.

This singular epidemic sometimes within a few days, has affected almost every individual in a village, and given rise to a general coughing and wheezing, so as to interrupt conversation. At the same time, few or none so ill as to require medical treatment. Its symptoms vary little from common colds. Yet cases sometimes occur, which require active medical treatment.

TREATMENT.

Give a tea made of dandelion, purge, and vomit, promote perspiration by catnip tea, febrifuge, tincture and vapor bath. Thompson's composition powders may be given in warm tea, occasionally, through the day.

PLEURISY, PLEURITIS.

A pleurisy is an inflammation of the pleura or membrane which lines the thorax, and envelopes the lungs. This disease begins with a sense of cold and shivering, followed by heat, thirst, flushing of the face, and other febrile symptoms. The pulse is quick, hard, and strong, and an acute pain is felt in one of the sides, most commonly the right, which increases upon every inspiration, with difficulty of lying on the affected side; hardness of breathing, and a short cough.

TREATMENT.

Vomit and purge as occasion may require, promote perspiration with the sudorific tincture, warm diluents, and Dover's powders, of which, from five to twenty grains may be given at night. A decoction of the pleurisy root may be used as a constant drink, with great advantage; warm fomentations should constantly be applied to the side and chest, also, mustard poultices to the feet and side. If the pain should not subside, bathe the feet, and apply a blister to the side. If the cough is troublesome, administer an infusion of slippery elm bark, a decoction of hoarhound and honey; balsam of honey; expectorant tincture; amaranthus, and the usual preparation recommended for cough.

PNEUMONIA, OR INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS.

This disease is sometimes complicated with pleurisy, and there is such analogy in their nature and character, that instances occur, in which physicians are unable to draw the line of distinction. In Pneumonia, there is a variation of symptoms according as the inflammation affects more especially, the substance of the lungs, and their proper covering, or the contiguous membranes. The symptoms are, great oppression of the breast, difficult breathing, obtuse pain in some part of the chest, cough, dryness of the skin, heat, and anxiety. Pulse full, strong, hard, and frequent; in the advanced stage, weak, soft, and often irregular.

TREATMENT.

The great indication in the treatment of this disease, is to lessen the inflammation; to fulfil this, strict antiphlogistic means must be persevered in. Diet strictly light. Purgings and vomiting are requisite, perspiration should be promoted by warm diluents, sudorific tincture, Dover's powders, steam bath, which is of great importance. Bleeding, cupping, and blistering, is sometimes requisite in very acute cases. Warm fomentations to the chest are necessary: also, the inhalation of the steam of the common fomentation. An infusion of white root, amaranthus, slippery elm bark and other mucilaginous articles may be drank freely. A decoction of hemlock boughs is good. Diuretics are of importance. If there is an obstinate, troublesome cough, the remedies recommended for consumption, are admissible, provided the inflammatory symptoms have sufficiently subsided. The syrup of poppies may be given to much advantage.

 CONSUMPTION.

It is a melancholy truth, that consumption occasions almost one seventh of the deaths among us.

The immediate cause in the largest proportion of cases are tubercles, or small tumors, which suppurate, and form ulcers in the substance of the lungs. Between this disease and scrofula, there appears an obvious connection. Consumption is generally, the consequence of colds and coughs; but local and accidental causes may produce it. Some occupations in life have a tendency to produce it, such as tailors, shoemakers, &c. The first symptoms, generally, are a short dry cough, an uneasiness about the chest; a sense of pain under the breast bone on lying down; the breathing oppressed by the least quickened motion, particularly in hot rooms, or in moist weather; spirits very irregular, either very lively, or much dejected, without any known reason, and gradually emaciation, more easily affected, with slight colds. As the disease advances, the cough increases; expectoration becomes more copious, and is occasionally streaked with blood; the pulse gradually becomes soft, small, and a little accelerated; but at

length full, hard, small and frequent, with the whole train of symptoms which accompany a *hectic fever*.

TREATMENT.

If the patient is troubled with cough of long standing, which appears *deep seated*, breathing laborious, appetite poor, a gradual wasting of the system in general, pain in the chest, whether or not attended with free expectoration, we ought immediately to render the most prompt service, and our first object should be to regulate the system in general. particularly the stomach and bowels, for which purpose in this stage of the disease, we may commence by giving an emetic of *Lobelia Inf.* and *epicacranha*, the operation of which will cleanse the stomach of any offensive matter it may contain, relieve in a manner the difficulty in breathing, promote expectoration as well as perspiration, all of which are very necessary at this stage of the disease. The operation of the emetic may be followed by gentle cathartics, as occasion may require. It may be proper here to remark, that drastic cathartics throughout the whole course of this disease, are unnecessary, if not injurious. If there be much difficulty of expectoration, the expectorant tincture should be given in doses of from fifteen to twenty drops four or five times a day, in hoar-hound tea, well sweetened. After using the above, if the cough and other symptoms do not abate, recourse must be had to the pulmonary balsam, in doses of a wine-glass full, gradually increased to as much as the stomach will bear, four or five times a day, with an attention to the regularity of the system generally, which should constitute one of our chief auxiliaries in the treatment of this disease.

If hemorrhage from the lungs at any time should take place, the most prompt efforts should immediately be used to suppress it, and for this, the cranes bill and the *Hamamilis Virginicus* will generally answer every purpose. A decoction made of equal parts of each, may be given freely, enjoining rest, and cooling drink, and diet until it is checked, it is here that our attention as well as efforts should be directed to the patient, to check the bleeding, without resorting to the lancet;

the debilitating effects of which are very evident, as well as is the necessity of the patient, retaining all possible strength. The immediate flow of blood, being subdued, the vegetable syrup ought then to be given in doses of a wine-glass full, three times a day, and may be increased so as to produce a slight nausea, which will also have a tendency to check hemorrhage. In all cases where there is much coughing or spitting of blood, the vegetable syrup ought to be given in preference to the pulmonary balsam and continued at least until all bleeding ceases. And in all cases of Phthisis from the well known effects of digitalis, in lessening the force of circulation, from the evidence of many practitioners having used it with success, and from the fact of our having removed the water in cases of Hydrothorax, in which the cough, bleeding, expectoration, and all other symptoms which before very much resembled incipient phthisis, were evidently removed, we are disposed to recommend this article as one of the most powerful and essential remedies, for the successful treatment of this disease, to be given in connection with the vegetable syrup. Either a decoction of the leaves, two thirds of a tea spoonful in powder, to one pint of boiling water, and this quantity to be taken daily, if circumstances will admit, or from ten to fifteen drops of the tincture three times a day. These ought to be continued for some time, as circumstances and symptoms may indicate, in either increased or diminished quantities. If after the use of these remedies, the disease should still continue to progress with an expectoration of pus, and increase of pain, an issue is good, but moderate size should be made on that part of the breast where the pain is seated, and considerable discharge produced, and continued for some time with the use of the above-mentioned remedies, or if the oppression and difficulty of breathing be great, a blister may be first applied. This is a very critical point of the disease; for it is now that fever, hectic, and night sweats take place, if it be not checked in its course, which ought to be most promptly attended to. For this purpose, if the state of the system will admit the restorative cordial, with the addition of some wild cherry-tree bark,

should be given in decoction, and not prepared in wine, for all kinds of stimulants in this disease, are evidently injurious, especially in this stage. If fever should commence in paroxysms, the amaranthus alone, or in combination with Virginia snake-root should be given, or a decoction of boneset well sweetened, in such doses as to produce moderate perspiration, and in the intermission, the restorative cordial should still be continued, but in increased doses. In this stage of the disease, the pulmonary balsam should be given as before stated, also a strong decoction of white pine bark, to be taken freely and frequently. This article may be used with advantage in all stages of this disease, without interference with the other articles. To prevent night sweats, the elixir vitriol in doses of fifteen or twenty drops, three or four times a day; this will generally be sufficient. If at any time during the course of the disease, pus should be expectorated in considerable quantities evidently proving that an ulcer had formed, means ought still to be persisted in, as though we were certain of performing a cure. And as a remedy here, certain powders prepared very fine, should be inhaled, for by experience, we are assured that not the least injury will result if properly used; but on the contrary, much benefit may be expected, for as an application to an external ulcer has a good effect, why will it not have the same effect if applied to an internal one? And from the well known properties of blood root, when applied to ulcers, it stands as a good remedy, and therefore ought to be used in small quantities by the aid of a funnel, two or three times daily, in connection with the other means recommended. There are also other remedies which might be used with safety, as well as prospect of relief, such as the Indian turnip, the red raspberry, crowfoot and bellroot. the two latter of which, more especially may prove beneficial in cases attended with bleeding. Therefore, if one fail, the other may be used, or by mixing them. If after using with proper perseverance the above means, the disease continues to progress, all hopes of recovery are gone, different remedies may be resorted to to protract life, and render the feeble remainder of existence as comfortable as the nature of the case will allow.

The diet in this disease should be light, and nourishing, and easy of digestion. The clothing should be warm and soft, and a pure and healthy atmosphere should be enjoyed in all cases where it is attainable.

PERTUSSUS OR HOOPING COUGH.

This is a convulsive cough, attended with a peculiar sonorous (spasmodic) inspiration, or *hooping*, from whence it has derived its name. It generally commences like a common cold, with slight febrile symptoms, a hoarse cough, and difficult expectoration, which often lasts several days or weeks, before the disease appears to be actually formed. It depends on a specific contagion which can effect a person but once in life. It is often dangerous, and at best, tedious; carrying its own evidence with it, which requires no detail of symptoms.

TREATMENT.

This disease is one arising from a specific contagion, over which we have no direct control. It has a tendency to *run a course* and wear itself out; hence, nothing more is expected than an alleviation of the urgent symptoms. Many credulous persons believe in wonderful cures from certain *specifics*, which are urged upon the community by impostors or inexperienced practitioners, and which not unfrequently give the sufferer a passport to a bourn beyond the reach of earthly maladies, when, if nothing but attention to diet, cleanliness, and good air had been observed, health would have soon returned. Much advantage might be derived from the exhibition of an emetic, or the expectorant tincture. An open state of the bowels is essential to a favorable progress of the disease; an occasional dose of sweet or castor oil, or bilious physic may be given. Elixir Paregoric is given with success, also, syrup of poppies, syrup of garlics, and cough drops should be given when the cough is very troublesome. Saleratus, one drachm, to a gill of water is said to be good in a tea spoon full to a child; foot bath and stimulating poultice to the feet.

**DIAPHRAGMATIS OR INFLAMMATION OF THE DIAPHRAGM.
CARDITIS, INFLAMMATION OF THE HEART, AND PERI-
CARDITIS INFLAMMATION OF THE PERICARDIUM.**

Are on most occasions, scarcely to be distinguished from Pneumonia, and probably are combined with it. In all these cases, nearly the same course of treatment must be observed.

TREATMENT.

Perspiration should be promoted externally, by warm fomentations and blisters. In chronic cases, an alterative course should be recommended. The alterative syrup may be prescribed. Much benefit will be derived from the external application of caustic, so as to produce a discharge about that region.

GASTRITIS, OR INFLAMMATION OF THE STOMACH.

An inflammation of the stomach is an acute disease, attended with great danger. It may proceed from a variety of causes, as swallowing mineral acids, eating unripe fruit, ardent spirits, suppressed perspiration, violent passions. It is known by a burning pain in the region of the stomach; anxiety, restlessness, excessive heat, and continual vomiting, great soreness and tension of the stomach, with flatulence and thirst. The pulse quick, hard and contracted. The symptoms vary in proportion to the acuteness of the disease.

TREATMENT.

All stimulating, acrid, or irritating articles should be carefully avoided. Mucilage of slippery elm, and balm tea may be occasionally given through the day; scarcely any internal remedy can be borne by the stomach, until the violence of the disease has subsided. Small doses of sweet, or castor oil may be given, if retained until the bowels are moved. The bowels should be evacuated by injection if the stomach is too irritated to retain purgatives; fomentation and blisters should be applied externally. Much advantage will be observed from the exhibition of the black drop, in doses of from eight to twelve drops.

This will allay irritation, pain, vomiting, and procure sleep. Soda powders, and a solution of saleratus is often given with success. Cupping and bleeding will sometimes be found necessary.

HEPATIS'S, OR INFLAMMATION OF THE LIVER.

This disease generally commences with rigor or shivering, which is succeeded by febrile heat, with pain either acute or dull, under the short ribs of the right side, increased by pressure on the part, and frequently extending to the collar bone and shoulder. There is difficulty of lying on the left side, shortness of breath, a dry cough, and sometimes vomiting of bilious matter, attended with hicough. The symptoms vary in this disease, according to the degree of inflammation and the part of the liver affected.

TREATMENT.

The treatment of this disease must be distinguished, as it is of the acute and chronic form. In acute hepatitis where the symptoms run high, no delay should be made in endeavoring to promote a free perspiration, either by steam bath, warm diluent drinks, and sudorific tincture, infusion of pleurisy root or Dover's powders. Purge freely with the bilious physic, if the stomach is too irritable, and it should not be retained, the white liquid physic will be preferable, this has been highly extolled for liver complaints and will usually be retained. Emetics are necessary in many cases, where there are symptoms of a great accumulation of morbid matter in the stomach, it should be followed by a purgative. If there is annoying nausea and vomiting, soda and saleratus may be given; also, an infusion of mint, with much benefit. Much advantage may be obtained by the application of external remedies, such as the common fomentation, often repeated, warm stimulating liquid, hot bricks rolled in cloths moistened with vinegar and water, mustard poultice, soap plaster, blistering and cupping. The feet should be bathed in warm weak ley, and sinapisms applied; anodynes should be exhibited when the pain is great in the side, particularly at

night ; the best will be the black drops, dose from 3 to 15 drops, in a little sweetened water, according to the age of the patient. Much advantage is often derived from rubbing the white ointment on the side. After the inflammatory symptoms have somewhat subsided, the alterative syrup should be recommended, with two grains of muriate of mercury to the bottle.

CHRONIC HEPATITIS, is characterised by a continuance of the acute symptoms in a milder form, and should have a similar treatment to the acute. Much dependance is placed on the alterative syrup, in which there is the *muriate of mercury*, two grains to the bottle. Purge with the bilious physic, dispeptic pill, and white liquid physic. Diet should be light ; moderate exercise in the open air is of great importance ; if there is constipation of the bowels, and it cannot be obviated by purgatives, much advantage will be derived from a bread made from wheat, without the bran being separated. The white ointment should be applied externally, the *scar cloth* and strengthening plaster ; sometimes much advantage will be derived from the exhibition of emetics, by unloading the stomach of vitiated secretion, and exciting a healthy action.

CYSTITIS OR INFLAMMATION OF THE BLADDER.

In this complaint the patient experiences a violent pain in the region of the bladder, sometimes attended with external redness in that part. There is frequent desire and great difficulty in voiding the urine, often a total suppression with frequent efforts to expel the fæces occasioned by the perpetual irritation of these parts. These symptoms are accompanied with febrile heat, sickness and vomiting, great anxiety and restlessness. Sometimes delirium and coldness of the extremities ensues.

TREATMENT.

In this disease the principles of treatment are the same as in nephritis, the patient should be steamed over a vapor bath, repeatedly ; purge, foment, cup, blister and give diuretics. Infusion of the seeds of marshmallows or slippery elm bark have been syringed into the bladder,

through a silver tube or catheter, with almost a specific effect.

BILIOUS CHOLIC.

This disease is attended with acute pain, diffused over, or in different parts of the abdomen, often fixed about the region of the naval, and the abdomen is sometimes much confined. The patient is troubled with a bitter taste in the mouth, with great heat, thirst, and fever, and a vomiting of yellowish or greenish bile. He discharges little or no urine, and there is obstinate costiveness. When the disease is extremely violent, and the peristaltic motion of the bowels becomes inverted, it is called *Iliac passion*.

It is a highly inflammatory disease.

TREATMENT.

In the treatment of this disease, the object is to free the bowels from the load which oppresses them, but the practitioner must keep in view that *irritable* state of the whole tract of the alimentary canal, which is so prominent a feature in this disease. If there should be much vomiting; soda, salleratus or a decoction of Dogacame, or an infusion of raspberry leaves or mint should be given. The common fermentation warm. Stimulating liquid and mustard poultices are necessary in bilious cholic, as well as in every other. The feet should be placed in a tub of weak ley for half or three quarters of an hour, after which mustard poultices should be applied. Should pain and vomiting continue, opium at once suggests itself as a ready means of allaying the morbid irritability of the stomach and bowels. A pill of three grains may be given to an adult, once in two hours if necessary, if the pain should be great. This will enable the practitioner to administer purgatives with more advantage. The bilious cholic physic or tincture of Jalap, should be given in small or large doses, often repeated according to circumstances. If tardy in their operation, they should be assisted by the common injection, containing a tea spoonful of laudanum, or stimulating injections of to-

bacco smoke are celebrated in this disease. They should be administered by means of a bladder with a tube into which the smoke is forced. We will here observe that always in giving injections the tube introduced into the rectum should be covered with some unctuous substance to prevent irritation. Care should be taken to introduce it in a straight line with the passage which curves a little backward, a cloth may be pressed against the arms to prevent the injection from passing away too soon.

Croton oil has been given with much success in this disease, in doses of from one to five drops.

The diet should be light.

COLICA PICTONUM. DRY BELLY ACHE OR PAINTERS CHOLIC.

This species of Cholic is attributed to the deleterious properties of lead. It has been denominated Devonshire cholic from its prevalence in that country occasioned as supposed by drinking cider kept in lead vessels.

The patient is seized with acute spasmodic pain in the pit of the stomach, which gradually extends to the whole intestinal canal, particularly around the naval. The bowels are frequently drawn towards the spine so as render injections impracticable; loss of appetite yellowness in the countenance, slight nausea, and obstinate costiveness. The whole region of the belly becomes highly painful to the touch, the muscles of the abdomen are contracted into hard irregular knots; pulse generally low.

TREATMENT.

The treatment in this is much the same as in bilious cholic. Fomentations to the abdomen, the warm bath and emollient injections containing laudanum, will contribute materially to a speedy and successful result. The black drop, or opium pill should be given in repeated doses. (See pharmacy.) Every means should be used to produce free purging. When the bowels are once freely moved, the pain which had been excruciating will quickly subside. A return of the disease is to be guarded against by the constant use of some aperient medicine. The dyspeptic pill should be occasionally taken

at night. Spirits of turpentine has been given with much success in this disease.

ENTERITIS, OR INFLAMMATION OF THE INTESTINES.

This acute and hazardous disease may be occasioned by the same causes as inflammation of the stomach. Also from obstinate costiveness, cold, fever, worms, and stimulating or unwholesome climates.

Symptoms nearly the same as inflammation of the stomach.

TREATMENT.

All the treatment laid down for cholics are to be observed in the cure of this, excepting the stimulating articles as the bilious cholic physic. To the abdomen apply warm fomentations. Give emolient injections. The bowels should be moved first with sweet oil, if gangrene and mortification is suspected, combine it with yeast. Give anodynes.

CHOLIC, COLICA.

This disease is known by wandering pain in the bowels with costiveness and rumblings, which abate when air is expelled either upwards or downward.

The pulse varies little from the natural standard.

TREATMENT.

The flatulent cholic should be treated with the bilious cholic physic. Thompson's composition powder, capsicum pill, bilious physic, injections and fomentations.

ASTHMA.

This disease is known by laborious respiration, a wheezing inspiration, distressing anxiety, and sense of stricture or oppression about the chest, increased in the horizontal position, usually attended with cough,

and some expectoration. Attacks most generally in the night, occurring in paroxysms at uncertain intervals, oftentimes periodical. The paroxysms which commence in the night, are often preceded by lassitude, torpor, drowsiness, pain in the head, &c.

TREATMENT.

Of all the remedies which have been used in the treatment of this troublesome and annoying disease, perhaps the *Lobelia Inflata* may be considered the best. Its effects are both palliating in the paroxysm and permanent in the intervals, which fact must be admitted by any practitioner or patient who have had opportunity of observing its salutary effects. We have seen its action in some cases where the patient was apparently suffering almost unimaginable distress; immed ate, lasting and radical relief was given. Its value can scarcely be sufficiently estimated in this formidable disease, Squills and vinegar is a remedy which has been considered of great importance, and was the specific of Sir John Floyer, but certainly is much inferior to the specific action of lobelia. It may be given in form of powder or tincture. The latter we give the preference, exhibited in teaspoonfull doses or more to adults, once in half an hour, until vomiting is produced, in any stage of the disease. This will relax the spasm, and determine to the surface, in the mean time boneset tea should be freely drank, the good effects will often be to evacuate the bowels, and assist the lobelia in producing vomiting. Vomiting must not be induced too often as it will produce debility.

The red or sudorific drops are proper in all the varieties of Asthma. They should have a gentle not a violent effect. When there is fever, direct purgatives occasionally. Great care should be taken to establish a good digestion with the dyspeptic, with purgatives, emetics, and tonics; cordials and stimulants where there is no fever. Much benefit has been derived from the expectorant tincture and vegetable syrup. Cayenne in pills has been recommended. Diuretics are extremely useful in this disease, as the infusion of marsh mallow seeds or in leaves, a teaspoon full of the sweet spirits of nitre, in a teacup full of spear mint tea. The tincture of digitalis may be given.

The following is said to have been used with great success. Put brown paper in a strong solution of saltpetre, dry the paper, and let the patient inhale the smoke of it when burning. Inhaling the steam of a decoction of bitter herbs is good, also smoking the leaves of stramonium. Great attention should be paid to diet and exercise, light and simple food is always to be taken and that in small quantities. The aphorism of Hypocrates should be recollected. If a man eats and drinks little, he will have little disease.

DYSENTERY.

This disease is characterised by griping, tenesmus, and straining at stool, attended with frequent, scanty, and mucous or bloody discharges from the intestines.

This disease is commonly preceded by costiveness, unusual flatulence, acrid eructations, wandering pains in the bowels, and griping pains in the lower part of the abdomen, which are frequently severe. There is always some symptomatic fever, which is sometimes of the remittent or intermittent type, and sometimes it is of a typhous character. The tongue white and covered with tough mucus; or rough, dry, and sometimes black.

The fever is sometimes of a violent inflammatory nature, when the danger is great, attended with a train of exceedingly alarming symptoms.

TREATMENT.

We feel it our duty here to remonstrate in the strongest terms, against the common practise of treating this disease with the lancet and mercury; which of all treatments is the most absurd. Why do practitioners lose so many patients in this disease? the reason is obvious, because they knew not how to treat it, or else they think it best to be governed by what they call some scientific or theoretical principle. — Are properly speaking, the scientific principle of slowly and painfully terminating the existence of bad man!! The wild judgment of a Hot-tentot, or the instinct of a savage is to be tried in prefer-

veneo to this popular, but enthusiastic, blood thirsty and mercurial creed. The pernicious effects of this demon in practice, is by no means confined to this disease; but like a gigantic monster, rises from his delve, to spread a tremendous destruction in all its connections! One writer who is regarded with great deference, in speaking of the treatment of disease, exclaims, "give me mercury and the lancet, and I will cope with any disease." Foolish and vain man! though no more so than many practising physicians of the present day, who seem to be altogether governed by popular prejudice, to whom the rye bread pill and red water drop doctor, spoken of by Mr. Jefferson, in his letter to Dr. Wistar of Philadelphia, is to be held much in preference. A nurse of good judgment is a much more safe prescriber of remedies, than the best of these falcons. The pernicious effects of this practice is obvious to the discerning mind, so much so, that it would be useless to adduce argument against it. It is difficult to reason on a subject so as to produce conviction, where the dogmas of the school book, are taken as the criterion, rather than those of nature. The creeds, the assumptions, and too often fictions of science, taught us in our early youth, recur to blind the eye to nature, and lead us astray from the open road to truth; they rise like the *ignis fatuus* of the night, or the mirage of the desert, to delude and to decoy! Addressing the ear alone, they place one sense in rebellion against all the others! and against the mind itself, and give it the rule of the whole reasoning powers. With such a pilot at the helm, the syren song of imaginary excellence, occupies us, while the whole circle of disease, its endless variety of phenomena, its dangers and remedies, should be the paramount, the engrossing subject of thought.

The steady employment of purgatives until proper fecal evacuations have been produced, or that sensation of load in the bowels, completely removed, constitutes a very important part of the treatment of this disease, for which purpose the neutralizing physic is admirably calculated; and to allay the morbid increase of irritability of the mucous membrane, which prevails through the whole extent of the alimentary canal, the practitioner will scarcely find his wishes dissatisfied, by the administration of this happy combination, (if properly prepared) with the com-

bined influence of the means further prescribed. Doses according to the age of the patient may be given, once an hour or at longer intervals, regulated from a consideration of existing symptoms. If necessity requires, mucilaginous anodyne injections may be exhibited with the greatest benefit, once an hour, until relief is obtained. The common injection (see phar.) is the best adapted; if an anodyne is wished, add from 20 drops to a teaspoonful of laudanum. After the bowels have been properly evacuated, continue the same medicine in smaller doses. Castor oil is a good purgative in this disease, if the stomach will retain it, it may be boiled a minute in milk, and sweetened with loaf sugar. When there is a distressing *tormina und tenesmus*, or violent pains in the belly, hot skin, frequent pulse or tendency to swelling in the abdomen, there should be no delay in the prompt and repeated application of warm fomentations to the belly; when there is much fever every means should be used to promote perspiration, by relaxing the capillary vessels and determining the fluids to the surface. It is surprising to see the astonishing relief that warm, external, general, and local applications will often give in this complaint. We have seen all its formidable symptoms removed by simply placing the feet and legs in warm weak ley, and applying warm fomentations to the belly. If the skin is hot and dry, sponge the whole body with warm weak ley, drink freely of a decoction of pleurisy root, and mucilage prepared from slippery elm bark. Dovers powders may be given with good effect at night, they obviate pain, allay irritation, and promote sleep. After the acute symptoms subside, direct cordials, bitters, and tonics, light and nourishing diet. When the bowels are affected with looseness, lime water will be found useful; it should not be checked too suddenly.

DIARRHEA.

A Diarrhea is marked by the frequent evacuation of more liquid stools than usual, of various colors, and matter, attended with flatulence in the intestines, uneasiness in the lower part of the abdomen, gripings, nausea, and sometimes vomiting. The patient is unusually sensible

to the impression of cold, the complaint is rarely attended with fever.

TREATMENT.

The treatment laid down for dysentery, is generally applicable to this. It must be regulated by a consideration of the age, constitution, business, concomitant symptoms, cause, and manner of invasion, duration, and effects upon the general habits of the patient. The neutralizing physic may be exhibited with great advantage in this disease, to neutralize the superabundant acid, which often prevails in the stomach and bowels. Emetics are sometimes of great advantage. Great pains should be taken to establish a good digestion. When the bowels are morbidly irritable, it will be proper to give anodynes. Dovers powders from 5 to 20 grains at night; a decoction of sumac berries, raspberry leaves, blackberry root, birch bark, &c. may be used.

CHRONIC DIARRHŒA.

This disease varying in its symptoms, will be recognized without any detail of description. The white liquid physic has been extolled as a valuable remedy in this disease; our experience does not admit us to say much of its merits, or demerits: but from a consideration of its qualities, it would no doubt be of great importance in certain derangements of function in the liver, which is often a prominent symptom in this disease. To adults, it should be given in doses of half or two thirds of a wine glass full, once in two hours, until it purges. This disease is remarkably obstinate under certain circumstances, especially when the patient is much employed in standing or walking, or mentally engaged. Great benefit will be found from confinement to the sofa: light diet, change of scenery, invigorating air, and cheerfulness; purging with the bilious physic, has made cures of long standing; to the physic, a little rhubarb may be added.

CHOLERA MORBUS.

The characteristics of this disease are, a profuse discharge of a green or dark colored, and sometimes acrid fluid in large quantity, and somewhat of a bitter taste, both from the stomach and intestines, attended with painful gripings, and great anxiety, about the precordia; cramps or spasms; particularly of the lower extremities, and great prostration of strength, considerable thirst, pulse extremely quick and weak, but seldom any fever; respiration hurried and irregular.

TREATMENT.

This often formidable disease is to be treated, on the same principles laid down under the head of dysentery; only the treatment should be much more energetic and prompt. Every phenomenon connected with this disease, shews a highly deranged state of the system. A little delay may be ultimately too late. The neutralizing cordial should be exhibited once, in 15 or 20 minutes until relief is obtained. It is stated, that Cajeput oil has been exhibited in the Indian and European cholera with complete success.

RHEUMATISM.

Of this there are two species, the acute, in which both fever and inflammation exist in a high degree; and chronic, when neither of these are present, but severe pains of long continuance are the principal symptoms. They are generally so well understood, that a recital of them would be an unnecessary labor.

TREATMENT.

The first object of the practitioner, in *Inflammatory Rheumatism*, should be to produce a free perspiration, by the steam bath, (see phar.): warm teas, made of Virginia Snakeroot, hemlock boughs, catnip or peppermint. At the same time the sudorific tincture should be given, in teaspoon full doses, once in one or two hours, until sweating is freely produced. After this the patient may take a full portion of Dover's powders; this will re-

lieve pain and encourage sleep. By this treatment we have seen our patients in the most distressing situation, wake entirely cured of their disease. Diet should be light, purge occasionally. Much advantage has arisen from the application of the green, or rheumatic oil; salamoniac wash, or hemlock plaster; and the following. Alcohol, spirits of turpentine, and camphor mixed together. Bathe the surface with weak ley. Sometimes cupping, blistering, and fomenting are necessary. There is a great susceptibility to relapse, after an attack of this disease. The patient should avoid exposure to cold, moist atmosphere, and dampness.

CHRONIC RHEUMATISM. In this complaint, 1st, promote perspiration as in the preceding disease. 2d, Give the Rheumatic liquid. 3d, The Rheumatic decoction may be taken with much advantage. 4th, Apply the Rheumatic oil, stimulating liquid, sear cloth plaster, White's plaster, &c. Cupping is good when the joints are swelled. Alterative syrup will often cure. In some cases it may be necessary to give purgatives.

MERCURIAL RHEUMATISM is to be treated with the Alterative Syrup, and a plaster made of venus turpentine and sulphur, applied to the feet.

GOUT.

The gout will be distinguished from rheumatism, by the pain generally attacking the joints of the extremities. It is at the same time less inclined to shift; when it does so, it generally attacks a corresponding limb, or some of the viscera. The parts affected, are generally more red and swelled. A paroxysm of gout, often makes an attack, without any previous warning; sometimes there are premonitory symptoms, well understood by those subject to it. The disease is one of excessive suffering, but beyond what are named, it has no constitutional symptoms, peculiar to itself, that can be accurately described.

TREATMENT.

In young and robust constitutions, when there is no hereditary tendency to the disease, and the inflammation and fever run high, active evacuations may sometimes be

required. On the contrary, persons advanced in life, who have suffered much from the disease, and been accustomed to a generous diet: this must in some degree be allowed them, even during the paroxysm, to obviate a metastasis; recommending fish in preference to flesh, for food, and madeira as the least ascendent wine.

Perspiration should be promoted, as in rheumatism. A decoction of meadow saffron, is said to be good. Much advantage has been derived from the application of Alcohol, and spirits of turpentine; stimulating liquid also. Moderate exercise in the open air, should be enjoined.

SMALL POX—VARIOLA.

This scourge of past ages is a disease highly contagious in its nature, and destructive in its tendency: It is preceded by a sense of languor and weariness, redness of the eyes, soreness of the throat with pains in the head and back. These are soon followed by the symptoms of severe inflammatory fever, with alternate fits of cold and heat, oppressive pain at the pit of the stomach, nausea and sometimes vomiting. The patient becomes restless if not delirious, with an uncommonly hot skin, bowels generally costive. On the third or fourth day after the attack, the eruption is usually thrown out, in distinct red spots like Flea bites; as soon as the eruption is completed the febrile symptoms abate; the pustules gradually assume a conical form, and about the eleventh day acquire their greatest size; they are entirely white or of a yellowish hue with red and inflammable bases. In small pox the symptoms multiply and vary with the severity of the attack, and in fatal cases, exhibit in the latter stages, a train of horrible symptoms which demonstrate its destructive character, which cannot well be understood, except by actual attendance and observation.

TREATMENT.

All that can be done, is to make use of such remedies as will relieve the urgent symptoms. The bowels should be occasionally evacuated by gentle purgatives. Promote the eruption by tepid bathing with weak ley, warm

teas, and sudorific tincture. Diet should be light. Snake-root and saffron tea, should be taken as a constant drink. If there is much loss of strength and languor the system should be supported by tonics. Milk punch is very good. Mucilage of slippery elm bark is good to apply to the eyes. For diarrhea, the usual remedies. Anodynes at night.

MEASLES.

The measles is an infectious disease and when genuine it never attacks the same person but once. About twelve or fourteen days after exposure, the febrile symptoms usually appear, on the first and second days there are shiverings, alternating with heat, great debility, languor and loss of appetite, white tongue, thirst, pain in the back and limbs, slight sore throat, hoarseness with dry cough and sneezing, pain in the forehead, giddiness and drowsiness, frequent, irregular pulse, costiveness and high colored urine. On the third or fourth day the symptoms increase in severity. The eruption appears between the third and sixth day after the attack, first appearing on the throat and gradually extending over the body; the eruption consists of small red points a little raised; they often run together in patches which gives the skin an uneven feel.

TREATMENT.

The same as in small pox.

HYDROCEPHALUS.

This is generally a disease of children and is always attended with danger. It has seldom been known to attack a child after the age of twelve or fourteen years. It is an affection which has been observed to pervade particular families.

It is often preceded by an unusual peevishness, and the child frequently cries without any known cause. This disease is divided into external, when the water lies on the surface of the brain, and internal when it is con-

tained within the membranes and ventricles. Such is the ambiguity of its symptoms that it is difficult to determine what are its real characteristics. The indisposition of the patient is sometimes attributed to teething or a disordered state of the stomach and bowels; frequently it resembles the common febrile complaints of children. A kind of slow fever appears attended with a weakness of the arms and pain in the limbs, and often in the upper part of the neck. A vomiting of bile ensues either with costiveness or diarrhoea and the appetite is impaired; a pain in the fore part of the head. The child becomes heavy and dull, it moans, often puts its hands to its temples and is unable to sustain an upright posture, pulse irregular commonly slower than natural.

TREATMENT.

The bowels should be thoroughly evacuated with the bilious physic and cream of tartar combined. The sal-amoniac wash should be applied to the head, feet placed in warm ley or water. If there is much fever, bathe the surface with tepid weak ley. Promote perspiration by the vapour bath and warm diluent drink. The common poultice and fomentation may be applied to the scalp previously shaved. The back of the neck and temples should be cupped occasionally, also blistered. Diuretics are given with good effect. If restlessness occurs give anodynes such as Dovers powders.

HYDROTHORAX OR DROPSY OF THE THORAX

In Hydrothorax the water may be contained in the one or both sacs of the pleura or in the pericardium alone, and they are often blended together. It commences with a sense of oppression and tightness at the end of the breast bone, with anxiety and difficulty in breathing. The patient being unable to rest in bed in a horizontal posture, and is afflicted with sudden starts during sleep from a sense of immediate suffocation. The pulse is small, and in the last stage extremely irregular with palpitation of the heart, the skin is dry, urine diminished in quantity, the lower extremities become adematous, coun-

tenance pale, with a purple hue of the lips and cheeks ; there is cough at first, afterwards attended with expectoration of thin mucus. As the disease advances the symptoms are much aggravated and a variety of others make their appearance.

TREATMENT.

The following will usually cure the disease. Take of pulverised digitalis two drachms, spear mint two ounces mix them well together, divide into twelve parts, to each of these powders add fourteen table spoons full of boiling water, of the infusion give a table spoon full every two hours through the day. One grain of calomel may be given night and morning. Anoint the chest and abdomen night and morning with the white ointment. The abdomen should be rubbed with sweet oil. Drink a strong decoction of parsley. In the mean time the bowels should be evacuated freely with the bilious physic and cream of tartar or the hydragogue pill. In the treatment of this disease the only peculiarity worthy of note is, that here the influence of diuretic medicines is more decided than in any other form of dropsy, and that digitalis is of all others the most generally successful.

ACITES OR DROPSY OF THE ABDOMEN?

Acites is not necessarily connected with a collection of water in other parts of the body, but is not unfrequently combined with anasarca or hydrothorax. It commences with a tumefaction of the abdomen, which gradually increases, until it is uniformly distended, and there is a distinct fluctuation perceivable, by applying one hand to the belly, and striking the opposite side with the other. The urine is diminished in quantity, and of a deep color. There is a great thirst and more or less fever. In acites the water is sometimes confined in different cysts, or in one of the ovaria, in which case the fluctuation is more obscure. Constitutional symptoms appear in the advanced stage of this complaint.

TREATMENT.

The same remedies may be used in this, as in hydrothorax. If they should fail, purge freely, and give the diuretic decoction. Hydragogue tincture, a decoction of Indian hemp, or the hydragogue pill. Much advantage has attended the use of whortleberry tincture, and also a tincture of juniper berries. Much dependance is put on brisk purging, if the constitution will bear it; and diuretics or medicine to increase the flow of water. The vapor bath fomentation, and the promotion of perspiration, are of great importance in *all* cases of dropsy.

ANASARCA, OR GENERAL DROPSY.

Anasarca commonly begins with a swelling of the feet and ankles, only in the evening, disappearing again in the morning. The swelling is soft and inelastic, and when pressed with the finger, will pit like dough, the impression remaining for some time. The swelling gradually ascends and occupies the legs, thighs, trunk of the body, and sometimes also the head. The skin is pale and dry, there is great thirst, the urine diminished in quantity, and highly colored, the body costive, and in advanced stages of the disease, a considerable degree of dyspnoea, cough and slow fever ensues.

TREATMENT.

The treatment of this disease, is the same as the two preceding. In all cases, the practitioner, by tracing the origin of this disease, and weighing accurately the accompanying symptoms, must form for himself some idea of its *proximate cause*. He will thus occasionally find the necessity of supporting the system, instead of lowering it, and to effect this, he will have recourse to tonics, such as restorative cordial, wine bitters, &c. The Alterative Syrrup will be given with much advantage in some cases.

APOPLEXY.

An Apoplexy is a sudden deprivation of the internal and external senses, and of voluntary motion, while the heart, lungs, and arteries, continue to perform their functions. It is most incident to persons, in the decline of life; and those of a corpulent habit, with a short neck, and large head, who lead an inactive life, use rich and plentiful diet, or drink to excess, are most liable to it.

It may be occasioned by any cause which increases the tendency of the blood to the head.

TREATMENT.

As there is a great determination of blood to the head, in this disease, and danger of extravasation, congestion, and effusion, the great indication is to produce an equilibrium in the circulation. In an actual paroxysm of apoplexy, the patient should be conveyed to a spacious apartment, and cool air freely admitted. He should be placed in a sitting posture. Ligatures of all kinds, especially about the neck should be removed. The legs and feet should immediately be placed in a tub of warm water, or weak ley. As cupping on the nape of the neck, is a powerful means of removing tension within the cranium, it may be resorted to, with a fair prospect of relief, and will answer better than general bleeding, the blood being drawn more directly from the part affected. It ought to be known, that from six to eight pounds of blood have been taken from a patient, in a short space of time. Who can doubt that many patients have been bled to death, by this injudicious treatment.

Every exertion is to be made to exhibit purgative medicine, but the paralyzed state of the organs concerned in swallowing, often renders this extremely difficult. The operation of purgatives may be promoted by sharp purgative clysters.

Cold applications to the head, have been found advantageous, and are certainly preferable to blisters. After the operation of purgatives, give emetics. When there is a predisposition to apoplexy, purge and vomit freely. Let the diet be cool and spare. Abstain from all fermented and spiritous liquors.

Take regular exercise. Establishing a drain, by means of a seaton or issue, is sometimes of great service.

EPILEPSY.

This is a sudden privation of sense, accompanied with unusual motions, generally with violent convulsions of all the voluntary muscles, and a frothing at the mouth, followed by great drowsiness. The fit recurs, at various and uncertain intervals, and often during sleep. The disease may proceed from a variety of causes, as external injuries, strong passions, sudden frights, &c-

TREATMENT.

In the treatment of this disease, our remedies are to be given principally in the intervals of the fit, and our aim should be to prevent their recurrence.

1st. By removing all sources of irritation.

2nd. By altering that morbid condition of the nervous system, on which convulsions depends.

3d. By strengthening and giving tone to the body.

Let the patient be often gently purged with the bilious, physic, and dyspeptic pills.

Give emetics, of the common emetic powder, and tincture of lobelia; this frequently repeated, often completely prevents and cures it. Much depends in the cure of this disease, on the judicious administration of lobelia, and preparations of stramonium; a tincture of the latter, or seeds, called the antispasmodic drops, may be given in doses of 20 drops or more, three or four times a day, in a little tea, until the pupils of the eye are affected. A grain of the extract of stramonium, has been given, once in two hours, until it had the desired effect, with the greatest success.

The antispasmodic syrup may be given in doses of half a wine glass full, three or four times a day; also a decoction of the scullcap may be drank freely. To give tone and strength to the system, make use of the restorative cordial and wine bitters.

Often great advantage is obtained, by applying caustic

to the back of the neck, or spine, so as to produce a discharge. In the time of a fit, let the feet and legs be placed in a tub of warm water or weak ley. Warm frictions on the surface, tend to restore the faculties. Apply the stimulating liquid; give the sudorific tincture or red drops. The practitioner should recommend a mild and easy diet, early hours of rising and going to bed; to abstain from all fermented or spiritous liquors. Cheerfulness, regular exercise, and washing the head and neck in cold water.

PARALYSIS, OR PALSY.

This disease is frequently the consequence of Apoplexy, and consists in the loss of the power of voluntary motion in certain parts of the body only. It most frequently attacks the whole of the muscles of one side of the body. This disease, if it be not caused by apoplexy, is often preceded by universal torpor, giddiness, and sense of weight, and uneasiness in the head, dullness of comprehension, loss of memory, and sense of coldness in the parts about to be affected. A variety of symptoms varying in different individuals attend this distressing complaint which often puzzles the most experienced.

TREATMENT.

As there is a great sympathy between the stomach and brain, it will be of great importance in the treatment of this disease, to establish a good digestion. Give the common emetic, and evacuate the bowels repeatedly. Then give the restorative cordial. In young persons, often the antiphlogistic treatment is frequently necessary; whereas in old and debilitated subjects, stimulants and tonics should be resorted to. In a sudden attack or fit, give equal parts of ether and laudanum, in doses of a teaspoon full, once in three or four hours, until relief is afforded. In all cases, make brisk friction externally with the stimulating liquid, common lineament, brushes, warm cloths, &c. Also cup the limbs or parts affected repeatedly, make

an issue on the back of the neck, by the application of the caustic of potash, (see ophthalmia) as large as half a dollar, keep up a discharge for a month or two. If there is obstinate constipation of the bowels give injections. The tincture of stramonium in 25 drop doses, three times a day, and electricity has been highly recommended. The application of plasters, has been much eulogized. Diet of easy digestion. Moderate exercise in the open air has been considered very beneficial.

HYSTERIA.

Those women who possess great sensibility of constitution, and who are frequently liable to obstructions of the natural sexual evacuations, are in general the subjects of hysteric complaints.

The disease generally begins with a sense of fullness and rumbling noise in the bowels, attended with a sensation, like that of a ball rolling round in the abdomen, ascending to the stomach and throat, and inducing a sense of weight and anxiety, nausea, and vomiting. When this sensation arises to the throat, occasioning a sense of suffocation, and difficulty of breathing or swallowing, it is called *globus hystericus*. A variety of constitutional symptoms occasionally occur.

TREATMENT.

The first object is to relieve the patient during the actual paroxysm. The power of swallowing being almost lost, or at any rate the teeth clenched, the attempt to give medicine during the fit, is often fruitless. The emetic powder or tincture of lobelia, if sufficient quantity can be got down to produce vomiting, will often have the power of removing the paroxysm at once. They are particularly useful, when the stomach is out of order from eating too much, or improper food. The warm bath, foot bath, warm fomentations, stimulating liquid; mustard poultice, and sudorific tincture, in teaspoon full doses, are best calculated for debilitated cases. One or two of the hysteric pills should be given. The object in the interval, should

be to make some impression on the system, to prevent the return of the paroxysm. In languid habits, tonics should be given; restorative cordial and wine bitters. The bowels should be occasionally evacuated with the dyspeptic pills; light diet, cheerful company, change of scenery, and moderate exercise in the open air, should be enjoined.

CHOREA, OR ST. VITUS' DANCE.

This is a species of convulsion most generally confined to one side, and affecting principally the arm and leg. It is chiefly incident to young persons of a weak constitution, and seldom attacks after the age of puberty.

This complaint may arise from the various irritations of body or mind, to which children are subject.

The convulsive motions which attend *chorea*, are sometimes preceded by yawning, stretching, anxiety about the heart, palpitations, nausea, difficulty of swallowing, giddiness, pains in the head, &c.

TREATMENT.

A very prominent part of the treatment in this disease, is the administration of purgative medicines. The quantity of feculent matter collected in the bowels, is, in many instances, enormous. This should be removed by the bilious physic, white liquid and dyspeptic pills. After this, a decoction of scull-cap may be exhibited with good effect. Endeavour to give energy to the stomach and bowels, and system generally, by tonics, restorative cordial, light and nourishing diet, and moderate exercise.

MANIA.

In the onset of this disease there is generally considerable disorder of the whole system; much febrile excitement, loss of appetite, a costive state of the bowels, and excessive restlessness. There are also present

very decided evidences of unusual determination of blood to the head, flushing of the face, redness of the conjunctiva, contracted pupils, and headache. The ideas of the patient are often more incoherent at the commencement of madness, than at a more advanced period. As the disease advances, various symptoms appear, differing in almost every subject, and presenting a train of melancholy, but interesting phenomena, which the pathologist and the moralist will criticise with an acumen, which will (in their own estimation at least) lead to very important conclusions.

TREATMENT.

In the treatment of mania, much will depend on the disposition and management of the attendants. In some cases, firmness, sufficient to ensure obedience, is not found incompatible with those conciliatory manners, which so commonly win the good-will of the patient, and rouse him from the sullen humors in which he is prone to indulge. The employment of severe bodily restraint, is at variance with that soothing, affable, courteous and encouraging tone and manner, so necessary to ultimate success.

The medical treatment consists principally in the exhibition of emetics, occasional purgatives, tonics, and anodynes. A discharge may be produced on the back of the neck, by the application of caustic, (see ophthalmia,) and blisters, with much good effect.

Temples and neck should be cupped, pediluviums to the feet; bathing the head with the stimulating liquid, has been of service—also sea bathing.

ASPHYXIA

The crasphyxia (literally meaning a want of pulse) has commonly been appropriated to those cases in which animation has for a time been suspended, from some violent cause, impeding respiration, such as strangulation, drowning, loss of blood, violent emotions of the mind, or exposure to mephlitic gasses:

TREATMENT.

All exciting causes should be removed. Any obstruction to the expansion of the lungs or circulation should be obviated, such as tight lacing. Air should be freely admitted. Stimulating or volatile spirits may be applied to the nose. Frictions with flannel, moistened with the stimulating liquid, are useful. The application of artificial respiration in cases of asphyxia, holds out in every point of view, a reasonable prospect of success; and that it has been effectual in restoring suspended animation, numerous observations concur to assure us. Inflation may be made by the mouth, blowing into the nostrils, through a tube, one constructed out of leather or pasteboard, will answer every purpose. The lungs should be emptied as they fill up, by pressure on the stomach. In fainting from the loss of blood, the person should be laid in a horizontal position.



CONVULSIONS.

Convulsion is commonly defined to be, that state, wherein the voluntary muscles are excited into action by *powers, independent* of the will. The exciting *powers* are owing no doubt to certain irritations at the seat of sensation, which irritations may be produced by a variety of *local* or *general* causes.

TREATMENT.

1st. Give emetic of Lobelia: 2d. tepid bathing, a foot bath: 3d. friction with stimulants: 4th. give the restorative cordial, and other tonics. If they should arise from the irritation of worms, make use of remedies applicable.



DYSPEPSIA.

Among the numerous diseases to which the stomach is liable, dyspepsia is one of the most obstinate and distressing.

This disease is generally attended with nausea, flatulent distensions of the stomach, vomiting of viscous mucus, heart burn, eructations, either sour or rancid and great costiveness, a sense of constriction and uneasiness in the throat, with pain in the side, paleness of countenance, languor, lowness of spirits, palpitation and disturbed sleep.

A volume would scarcely contain a history of all the symptoms, which some authors declare to be of dyspeptic origin ; but to be able to identify the disease is sufficient, and by removing it, these symptoms will disappear.

TREATMENT.

Much will depend in the treatment of this disease on regimen, or a well directed course of diet, and proper and regular exercise, in order to ensure the due performance of the functions of the stomach, the recovery of lost energy, and the removal of that sense of morbid distension. All articles of food of difficult digestion, should be carefully avoided ; such as all kinds of smoked, hard, dried, salted, and very fat, fried, and long kept meat ; all those dishes where too much nutritious matter is collected in a small space ; eggs for instance, potted meats, strong soups, and preparations of suet, fat, and butter ; lastly, all raw vegetables whatever, with the exception of ripe fruits.— Though we would further add, the dyspeptic should be governed by no particular creed. He should be his own judge, choose that regimen which agrees with him best, and strictly abide by it. There is danger of erring in quantity as well as quality. The body is strengthened, not in proportion to the quantity of food taken in, but to that which is *thoroughly* digested,—Walking, of all exercise is the best, but if this cannot be borne, such should be taken as circumstances will admit of ; if excessive debility, friction with the flesh brush, and flannels, are advisable, also riding on horseback, or in carriage, sailing and change of scenery.

The medical treatment consists in the occasional exhibition of emetics, purgatives, and laxatives, bitters, tonics and stimulants. Occasionally the bilious physic may be given, but more generally the dyspeptic pill, two or three at night and one or two in the morning. If there is much derangement in the functions of the liver, the alterative

syrup should be given ; to each bottle there should be added two grains of the muriate of mercury. The powdered bitter root and pulverised leaves of the boneset, (eupatorium) in tea spoon full doses, has been given with much good effect :—also, the antipyrosis liquid where there is much flatulency, and restorative cordial. If there is obstinate constipation of the bowels, bread should be eaten, made of wheat unbolted, the feet should be kept dry and warm.

JAUNDICE.

Jaundice in its genuine form, commences with a sense of lassitude, languor, and a sensation of pain and tension about the region of the liver ; there is frequently anxiety and some difficulty of breathing ; a yellowness is diffused over the whole skin, the whites of the eyes, and the roots of the nails being tinged with the same color. These are attended with an intolerable itching of the skin, and a bitter taste in the mouth, with nausea and vomiting, and dyspeptic symptoms. The stools are of a white color, the urine of an obscure red, tinging linen with a yellow hue. The pulse is generally more quick than natural, the bowels are costive, and a slight degree of fever is present.

TREATMENT.

Barberry bark and cider has been highly recommended for this complaint, also, eggs in wine, in the morning. Exercise and cheerfulness are of great importance, to obviate that despondency so often accompanying this disease. The common emetic and purgative may occasionally be given, but the cure principally will depend on stimulants, tonics, and alteratives. Diet should be light but nourishing.

DEAFNESS.

Deafness may proceed from various causes, as a radical defect in the organ of hearing, which admits of no

remedy. It may arise from too great dryness of the ear, from a deficiency of the secretion of wax, from hardened wax obstructing the passage of sound, inflammation, fevers, violent colds affecting the head, syphilis, and antoy or paralysis of the auditory nerves.

TREATMENT.

A weak solution of corrosive sublimate may be injected into the ear, also soap suds. The back of the neck should be cupped, and blistered. Much advantage has been derived from the application of caustic to the nape of the neck, in order to produce a discharge. This should be promoted for two or four months, (see mode of applying for ophthalmia), Rattle snakes oil has been recommended, dropped into the ear.

EPISTAXIS, BLEEDING AT THE NOSE.

A hemorrhage from the nose is not always to be considered as dangerous, nor is it prudent in every instance to stop it immediately. To those who have a redundancy of blood, this evacuation may be serviceable, frequently curing vertigo, and other affections of the head, and sometimes epilepsy. When there is great determination of blood to the head, it often affords important relief. It is only when the discharge is immoderate or continues so long as to weaken the patient, that it ought to be suppressed.

TREATMENT.

Beef that has been salted, dried and pulverized, blown or forced up the nose, has been highly recommended. The feet should be placed in warm water. Bones stiptic powders is said to be very good.

DIABETES.

A diabetes is a distressing, and in general, a very ob-

stinate disease. The chief symptom is a very copious discharge of limpid sweet urine, often exceeding in quantity all liquids taken by the patient into the stomach. It is clear, pale, commonly sweet to the taste, and has generally an agreeable smell. The patient complains of intense thirst, with at first a keen appetite, a parched mouth, with constant spitting of a thick viscid phlegm. A whitish tongue with red bright edges; there is headache, and a dry, hot skin, with flushing of the face; pulse small and quick. There is likewise an uneasiness of the stomach and kidneys, with a fullness of the loins, testicles, and feet; a weariness and disinclination to motion or exertion; costiveness, mental debility, weakness and emaciation.

TREATMENT.

In the treatment of this disease, every exciting cause should be carefully avoided, and all possible means taken to counteract the derangement of function, which so generally prevails. Much advantage has been derived from animal food. Give a strong decoction of hemlock and wild cherry tree bark. The tincture of cantharides (Spanish flies) has succeeded in some cases, given three times a day from five to thirty-five drops; also the diuretic drops. Blisters may be applied to the sacrum, or lower part of the back; also strengthening plasters; bathe with the stimulating liquid. Give the restorative cordial. Advantage is sometimes derived from emetics.



AMENORRHOEA, OR RETENTION AND SUPPRESSION OF THE MENSES.

Amenorrhœa, is of two kinds; the first, when the menses do not begin to flow, at the period of life when they usually appear in other women;—the second, when, having occurred and continued some time, they are interrupted; in common language they are called *retention* and *suppression* of the menses or *turns*.

In neither a pathological or practical point of view,

do these species of the disease differ essentially from each other. Their accompanying symptoms are nearly alike, they arise, as far as we can form a judgment, in a great measure, from the same causes, and their treatment is to be conducted on the same principles.

There is considerable diversity in the periods at which the menstrual flux first appears, depending partly on the climate and partly on the habit of the individual. In this country, and in healthy constitutions, it commonly shows itself about the age of fourteen, but the delay of some months, or of one or two years is not to be viewed as a source of uneasiness. Retention of the menses for even a longer period than this, is not always to be considered as a disease. It is compatible with a state of robust health. Notwithstanding this, the anxiety of the mothers frequently prevents them, under such circumstances, to solicit the advice of a physician. These cases are on no account to be interfered with. Circumstances are widely different; when about the age of seventeen, a young woman who has never menstruated, begins to droop in her general health. The symptoms which accompany this state of uterine function are very various, but they may be characterized, generally, as indications of a weak and irritable habit. Those of dyspepsia and hysteria predominate, and the system sinks. It is frequently followed by, or connected with, *consumption*, and it must therefore be viewed as depending on the *scrofulous* habit of the body.

One of the most prolific causes of suppressed menstruation, is cold, or strong mental emotion. The most common symptoms are pain in the left side, headache, bleeding from the nose, giddiness on stooping, and slight fever. The acute, or accidental obstruction, for the most part, may be relieved in a short time, but the chronic is more obstinate.

TREATMENT.

The great object of treatment in suppressed menstruation, is to give tone to the system. If it has arisen from sudden cold: diffusing the circulation, by promoting perspiration with the hip, bath, foot-bath, warm tea,

or diluent drinks, sudorific tincture, fomentations, and Dover's powders; and taking off any spasmodic constriction, or inflammatory action, which may exist in the vessels of the uterus, will usually speedily relieve all the prominent symptoms. But in the more chronic form, if there is much plethora, and febrile excitement, purgatives should be freely given; bathe the feet, if much pain, cup. After this, commence with the black or emmenagogue powders, dose a teaspoon full, three times a day, (see Pharmacy.) If this should not succeed, equal parts of the tincture of black hellebore and logwood may be administered, doses from a teaspoon full to a tablespoon full may be given three times a day—also equal parts of the tincture of myrrh and castor. An open state of the bowels should be secured by the dyspeptic pills. Diet should be light—exercise in the open air. Stimulating fomentation applied to the abdomen is very good. Advantage has been derived from the administration of ergot, (spurred rye) in doses of about half a drachm, divided, taken in the space of twenty-four hours. Emetics are very good in many cases. They relieve the head, determine the fluids to the surface, and often remove much vitiated matter from the stomach. If there is much debility, give the restorative cordial and other tonics. Alterative syrup may be given. A pill made of pitch or white-pine turpentine; copperas, and aloes has been highly extolled.



MENORRHAGIA OR FLOODING.

Menorrhagia is usually regarded as that morbid condition of the system at large, or the uterus in particular, which produces either too frequent discharges of the menstrual flux, or too copious a one at the regular periods. But we shall confine the term to actual *flooding* or a discharge of coagulable blood. It is a fact well known, that the menstrual blood never coagulates, and is seldom too profuse in quantity. But it is often followed by, or mixed with, an effusion of arterial blood, which may be known by the patient, by its appearing in clots, or coagula, and is produced by an action in the uterus, very

different from the *secretion* of the true catamenial flux. It is usually accompanied by some febrile excitement, languor, and pain in the Loos.

TREATMENT.

An open state of the bowels should be secured by purgatives and laxatives, a light spare diet, and confinement to a bed or sofa, is to be enjoined. A strong decoction of cohush or squaw root should be given. Napkins or cloths dipped in a solution of common salt, in equal parts of vinegar and water, are to be applied to the abdomen. The astringent injection may be thrown up three or four times a day, or in slighter cases the parts may be frequently moistened with a sponge dipped in it.

When the constitution is much enfeebled, the restorative cordial, containing a large proportion of Solomon's seal should be taken, dose a wine glass, took three times a day. Strengthening plasters should be applied to the back. Bathe the abdomen with the stimulating liquid, also make friction.

Ergot in eight or twelve grain doses, has been given with much success. Emetics succeed in some cases. Although at variance with many, our principles of diffusing the circulation, dilating the capillary vessels, and promoting perspiration, by the exhibition of warm teas, sudorific tincture, vapor baths, &c. succeeds admirably in many cases. If this is resorted to the treatment should be energetic, and effects produced as quick as circumstances will admit, as a tardiness in the use of warm means will only aggravate the symptoms.

LEUCORRHEA OR FLUOR ALBUS.

This disease consists in a discharge of a serous fluid from the uterus and vagina, and is most incident to women of relaxed habits, who have borne many children. In its violent degree or advanced stage, it is accompanied with severe pain in the back and loins, great debility, dyspepsia, difficulty of breathing, palpitation of the heart, paleness of the countenance, loss of appetite, pain

in the stomach and indigestion. There is often some degree of fever, and the eyes are sometimes swelled, and an irregularity in menstruation.

TREATMENT.

Purgatives should occasionally be given. Then the diuretic drops in tea spoon full doses, three times a day, the astringent injection should be thrown up three or four times a day, cleanliness should be strictly enjoined, diet light and easy of digestion. If dyspeptic symptoms accompany, give the restorative cordial and dyspeptic pills.

The yellow wash may be used as an injection with good effect.

VOMITING OF BLOOD.

The following formula is very good. Take of sugar of lead twenty grains, gum Arabic ten grains, fifty drops of laudanum, eight ounces of warm water, dose from a tea spoon full to a table spoon full every hour. The feet should be placed in a warm foot bath. Purge with the bilious physic. Give a tea of colush. Support the system with the restorative cordial.

SPITTING OF BLOOD.

In the treatment of this complaint, every means should be taken to equalize the circulation, by the external application of heat. Much advantage may be derived from the exhibition of the vegetable syrup. If much pain in the chest, foment, cup, blister and apply mustard poultices. Digitalis may be given with good effect in doses of one or two grains occasionally.

WORMS.

It has been contended by many respectable physicians,

th at worms necessarily exist in the bowels of every child after it is weaned; and are conducive to health, and by others, that worms are the effect of sickness, and are only to be found in the bowels of such children, as are debilitated by bad management, or by some acute disease. Both children and adults frequently evacuate a number of worms, about the termination of a fever, or other illness which has induced great debility.

Worms incident to the human system are of several kinds, and often induce troublesome maladies. There are no infallible criteria by which their presence can be known.

TREATMENT.

The following succeeds in many cases in expelling the common round worm. Equal parts of pulverized skunk cabbage, indian hemp, white wood bark and aloes, mixed. Of this take a teaspoon full three times a day in molasses, continue the use of this for a short time, then give a brisk purgative. If this should fail, equal parts of pink, senna and manna, steeped in milk and water, may be given at intervals until a free purging is produced. Spirits of turpentine, in tablespoon full doses succeeds well; there is not the least danger in giving it even to young children, if occasion should require. The effects for a short time will be intoxicating. It will act as a purgative after the second or third dose. Where small worms in the rectum, are troublesome to children, they may usually be removed by injections of infusion of tobacco.

Tapeworm is very rare, and obstinate to treat. The male fern, spirits of turpentine, indigo, &c. have been recommended.

APHTHA.

This is an inflammation of the mucous membrane of the mouth, stomach, and bowels, affecting infants chiefly, between the fourth and eighth month. There is reason to believe, that it is generally connected with an improper diet. It is characterized by vomiting, foetid eructations,

and pains apparently referred to the stomach, tormina and diarrhoea. The stools are green and slimy, or tinged with blood. As the disease advances, the tongue becomes red, the mouth is covered with *aphtha*, and the verge of the anus appears inflamed. The child is frequently drowsy before the aphtha appears. The infant rapidly emaciates. It often proves fatal in a short time.

TREATMENT.

The treatment should be begun by an emetic. Small doses of bilious physic, neutralizing physic, castor oil, or rhubarb and magnesia, should then be given frequently, while the urgent symptoms continue. Mucilaginous and anodyne injections may be thrown up, with the view of sheathing the lower parts of the inflamed membrane. Give the antipyrosis liquid. Use a wash or gargle for the mouth, made of a decoction of sumac berries in which there is a small quantity of golden seal; to this add a small quantity of borax; wash the mouth with this several times a day. If it should prove obstinate, give the alterative syrup, and wash with the yellow wash. A warm bath is frequently serviceable. Great attention should be paid to the diet of the child, which must consist altogether of milk, or the lightest farinaceous preparations.

ANGINA PECTORIS.

SYMPTOMS. Angina pectoris consists of repeated paroxysms of violent pain or uneasiness about the chest, occurring principally when the patient is walking up hill, or soon after eating. The feeling of pain is so acute, as to make him instantly stand still, and even to give the apprehension of immediate death, it is referred to the sternum, a little inclined to the left side; from this point, it shoots across the breast to the left arm, and appears to terminate at the elbow. In some cases, it shoots to the right breast, and passes down the same way. The duration of the paroxysm has been, in some very severe cases, protracted to half an hour or more; the face and extremities becoming pale, and bathed with a cold sweat.

TREATMENT.

In the paroxysm, give the antispasmodic drops, and digitalis, also, the red drop, put the feet in warm ley, and apply fomentations. To obviate their return, recourse must be had to blisters, purgatives, seatons, issues, &c. applied about the chest.

PALPITATION OF THE HEART.

For this affection, give the red drops, and antipyrosis liquid. If they should not succeed, give the tincture of stramonium, digitalis, and restorative cordial.

The oil of tar is a good remedy for pains in the breast or chest.

Oil of turpentine, and neatsfoot oil, is very good to apply for pain in the back.

BLEEDING FROM THE PENIS.

A decoction of peach leaves, frequently acts like a charm to cure this disease.

SICK HEAD ACHE.

Give an emetic, then purge : 25 or 30 drops of the antispasmodic drops may be given 4 or 5 times through the day, with good effect.

THE
REFORMED PRACTICE
OF
MEDICINE,

AS TAUGHT AT THE REFORMED MEDICAL COLLEGES IN THE
CITY OF NEW YORK, AT WORTHINGTON, OHIO, AND
ALL THE REFORMED SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED
STATES.

CONTAINING
ALL THE PRACTICE OF DR. BEACH OF NEW YORK,
OF THE CELEBRATED DR. BONE OF NEW JERSEY,
AND OTHER CELEBRATED BOTANIC
PRACTITIONERS.

Two Volumes in one.

VOL. II.

BY PROFESSORS AND MEMBERS OF THE
REFORMED MEDICAL COLLEGES
IN NEW YORK AND WORTHINGTON, OHIO.

"The science of Medicine, like the Doric Column, should stand
SIMPLE, PURE, and MAJESTIC, having FACT for its basis, IN-
DUCTION for its pillar, and TRUTH alone for its capital."

BOSTON, 1831.

2

1844-1845

1844-1845

REFORMED PRACTICE OF SURGERY.

INFLAMMATION.

Every organ and structure of the body, is liable to inflammation; and next to fever, this is the most important subject of inquiry in the wide extent of medical science. When any part of the body obvious to our senses, becomes inflamed, such as the skin, the tonsil, or the eye, there are four alterations from the healthy state of the part, which become manifest. These are *pain, heat, redness, and swelling*. It is to one of these symptoms singly, but their combination, which mark the existence of inflammation. The symptoms of *internal inflammation* are more obscure, and require more minute investigation. Its presence is judged of in two ways, by local and by constitutional symptoms. The local symptoms are pains, increased on pressure, and disturbance of function; the constitutional, fever, and hotness of blood.

Physiologists reduce the fundamental textures of the body to five, viz:—cellular membrane, serous membrane, mucous membrane, skin, and fibrous membrane; and accordingly, there are five varieties of inflammation founded on peculiarity of structure, viz:—phlegmonous, serous, mucous, erysipelous, and rheumatic.

GENERAL TREATMENT OF INFLAMMATION.

The general treatment of local and general inflammation, consists in bleeding, fomenting, cupping, purging, poulticing, and the application of the cooling wash.

ULCERS.

This is an important subject, inasmuch as ulcers are met with almost daily, by the practitioner, and frequently resist the effort of the most skilful. For the convenience of description, we will consider the subject under the heads of—1st, the *simple* ulcer; 2d, the *irritable* ulcer; 3d, the *indolent* ulcer.

The *simple* ulcer is usually met with in the young and healthy subjects, and is the result of some injury done to a sound part, by wound, bruise, burn, &c. The surface of this ulcer is florid, from the small red granulations which cover the bottom and sides of it. In a little time, small white patches may be observed on the top of these granulations; first near the edge of the old skin, and at last in the middle, and other parts of the sore. These patches lay the foundation of a new scarf skin. From the sore there is always discharged a white, thick, inodorous pus, small in quantity, and easily wiped away.

2. *Irritable* ulcer. The edges of this ulcer are ragged and shelving, or undermined. The parts for some distance beyond the ulcer, are red, and inflamed, and often œdematous; irregular hollows occupy the bottom of the ulcer, and contain a thin, greenish, or redish matter, which is so extremely acrid, as to excoriate the adjoining skin. In place of granulations, may be found a white or dark red spongy mass, extremely painful, and shedding blood upon the slightest touch.

This ulcer generally proceeds from impure causes.

3d. The *Indolent* ulcer is the most common and is frequently found in the lazy, filthy, and dissipated. Its appearance differs much from the simple and irritable; the surface of the sore has a flat and shining appearance, and is covered partly with a pellicle or crust of a whitish, or dark grey color, so tenacious as to be inseparable from the ulcer without considerable force. There is generally a free discharge from the ulcer, but sometimes it is dry or free of matter. The edges are elevated, protuberant, smooth and rounded; hence a very deep cavity is apparently formed, when in reality, the base of the ulcer is very little below the level of the second skin. For a considerable distance beyond the ulcer the parts are swollen and

hard, and the whole inflamed. This ulcer is much the most frequently found on the leg. Commonly, there is little pain attending, in some instances, however, there is a good deal of burning and smarting.

TREATMENT.

The simple ulcer need but little treatment. If from exposure to cold or moisture, inflammation attend, foment, steam, poultice, and dress with black salve.

In the treatment of the irritable or inflammatory ulcer, purgatives should occasionally be given. Of all emollient poultices, perhaps the common slippery elm poultice is the best. This should be applied, especially through the night. If this should not succeed in arresting the inflammation, steam with a decoction of the common fomentation or stramonium. Soak the feet in warm water or ley. The discutient and white ointment should be applied around the edges and sometimes directly to the ulcer. If the granulations raise much above the surface, they should be touched with the vegetable caustic. Dress with the black salve.

In the treatment of indolent ulcers there should be a strict adherence to the application of emollient and stimulating poultices, fomentation, and steaming. The most general poultice will be the common slippery elm; but often the most decided good effects will arise from the application of the *wild indigo*, alkaline, white lily, carrot, and potato poultice. It sloughing should attend any kind of ulcers, the yeast poultice is to be used.

Poultices should be used, particularly at nights, if discontinued through the day—dress with the black salve, spread thin on linen. After proper dressings are applied, and compresses laid over, a bandage or roller should be neatly put around the limb, from the toes upwards, in such a manner as not to press on the skin in creases.

In order to create a healthy action and stimulate the surface, washes, caustics, stimulating solutions, and ointments must be used. Where the edges are thick, prominent, hard, smooth and round, first apply the yellow wash, black wash, a wash made of Castile soap and brandy, white ointment, discutient ointment, &c.

Should these not have a desired effect, something more powerful should be resorted to. The vegetable caustic may be applied to the edges.

The best effects often follow the application of a few grains of the muriate of mercury or mineral caustic. Pulverized blood-root is a fine remedy.

Decided advantage will, in most cases, follow cupping around the parts. A pint of blood may be taken in this way in some cases. This will have a tendency to obviate hardness. In all cases the alterative syrup should be freely taken.

Diet should be light, but little exercise should be taken with the limb; the foot must be kept raised to facilitate the return of blood.

There will be but few ulcers met with but what will receive decided benefits from the judicious use of the above remedies.

We could mention a number of cases, their names and places of residence, for which *amputation* was decided to be the only remedy, and that to save the life of the patient, by half a dozen of the best and most popular surgeons in the city of New-York, (we might say in America, for they have as good there as any where,) but by a prompt, persevering, and well-directed application of the above remedies have been entirely cured. Now we would ask if two legs were not better than one. There is not the least doubt but there are hundreds of legs cut off where there is not the least need of it. We have seen cases cured, and also amputations performed, where the symptoms were in no comparison to those cured.

In the treatment of sinus ulcers, a lint should be lubricated with a little of the white ointment to prevent the orifice from closing. Syringe in Castile soap-suds twice a day; then the yellow and black wash. If this should not succeed, a solution of the mineral caustic may be used for the same purpose, in proportions of about six or four grains to 2 ounces of water. A little of the mineral, or vegetable caustic may be introduced on a probe or lint, not over a grain of the mineral. If inflammation follow, poultice. Occasionally give purgatives and alterative powders.

Further observation will be seen on the treatment of sinus ulcers under the head of fistulas and scrofula.

WOUNDS.

Under this head we shall adopt the following division of wounds, viz. Incised, Punctured, and Lacerated wounds.

Incised wounds are the most simple, and independent of hemorrhage, the least dangerous of all. Profuse bleeding however is apt to take place even from vessels of moderate size, provided the cutting instrument is exceedingly sharp; a wound produced by a dull instrument on the contrary, seldom pours out much blood. As soon as any part is cut there is a recession of its edges.

Punctured wounds are created by sharp and narrow instruments. When slight they are seldom attended with inconvenience or danger. Much however will depend on the situation of the part wounded, and the constitution of the patient. An apparent trifling puncture among the tendons, nerves and fascia, has sometimes caused the lockjaw. Many distressing consequences not unfrequently result from punctures in various parts of the body.

Lacerated wounds, are produced by any obtuse or irregular body driven with force against the part. The soft parts may be torn and mangled, and dirt kneaded into them. Wounds of this description are attended with more or less pain and danger according to their extent and location.

TREATMENT.

The first object in the treatment of all wounds, is to prevent hemorrhage, and clear them of all extraneous and foreign matter. The next is to endeavor to heal by the *first intention*. What is meant by healing by the first intention; is, healing without inflammation or suppuration, which always must be done in a short time after the wound is received. The healing of a wound is not the result of any application; that it is, in short, nothing but the work of *nature*. There has never been discovered any such thing yet, as a *healing virtue* in any remedy. The idea "that there is nothing in nature healing; no such thing as a balsam, no balm in Gilead," is very revolting to the minds of many, but such is the fact. The first application to a simple incised wound is the improved

plaster. This is made as follows. There should be first, four pieces of adhesive plaster, cut of the size wanted. The edges of two should be coarsely sewed, so as to be within a half an inch or an inch of each other. The remaining two should be sewed in the same manner, but in such a way as to have the threads interwoven with the first; that one of the pieces of plaster may be under one of the first, and the other, on the opposite side, above. The sticking sides should all face one way, so that, when the two bottom plasters are placed one on each side of the wound, by drawing the two upper, the edges of the wound readily approximate. This is much in preference to the common way, as it may be kept on a week, and the wound may be seen through the threads; over this may be laid a little lint or a black plaster, then compresses and bandages. When a wound cannot be healed by the first intention, it is to be treated the same as an ulcer. If inflammation occurs, foment, steam, and poultice.

The orifice of punctured wounds should not be allowed to be closed, by the introduction of a tent. Lacerated wounds are to be treated by poultices, fomentations, black plasters, &c.



CONTUSIONS.

In contusions, more or less injury is sustained, although the skin may remain entire. In general the smaller vessels are ruptured, and blood is poured into the cellular texture or among the muscles, producing an echymosies, and discoloration; various grades of injury is sustained, according to the situation and extent of the wound.

TREATMENT.

In bruises when there is great pain and swelling, apply first the common poultice; if this should not be sufficient, steam, foment, and cup. Diet should be light. If much fever excited, give purgatives. Much benefit will sometimes arise from the application of the sal ammoniac wash, common liniment, and sear cloth plaster. If pain should prevent sleep, give anodynes, such as Dover's powders, and black drop.

ERYSIPELAS.

This is a disease of the skin, the surface of which is elevated and of a light scarlet color, mixed occasionally with yellow and dusky red, and having an abrupt termination. The redness is accompanied by a burning sensation, or by itching. When pressure is made upon the swelling, the redness disappears, leaving a white spot in its place. The redness, however, is quickly restored upon the pressure being removed. In some cases small vesicles, containing an acrid serum, appear on the diseased surface.

Generally, but not always, more or less chilliness or shivering, fever, nausea, precede the appearance of erysipelas. These symptoms cease about the third day, and the redness and swelling soon after take place. In mild cases the cuticle separates in flakes, and the skin beneath assumes a healthy aspect. When vesicles form, they either dry up and desquamate, or else terminate in ulceration or sphacelus. Erysipelas is sometimes combined with a phlegmon forming what is termed *erysipelas phlegmonvieles*.

TREATMENT,

If much plethora, cup the parts, evacuate the bowels with the bilious physic. A wash made of borax and milk succeeds well in many cases. Apply the discutient, green and white ointment. If this should not succeed, apply a wash made of brandy and the mineral caustic, from two to six grains to the ounce. A wash of the tincture of capricum is very good; also slippery elm bark and buttermilk. Red lead, simmered in sweet oil, has been said to be good. If there is high inflammation, apply the sal ammoniac wash. Diet should be light and cooling. A decoction of elder flowers has been recommended.



MORTIFICATION.

Gangrene and sphacelus have been used to express the same disease. But we shall employ the term *gan-*

grene to denote that condition of a part which immediately precedes its death, and the term *sphacelus* to denote the complete death of a part; and the term mortification to designate both stages of the complaint.

When a part loses its sensibility, heat, and color, its vitality is extinguished, and mortification ensues. These changes seldom take place suddenly; but are generally preceded by an increase of pain, of a pungent burning kind. The swelling also is increased, the blood still circulates in the larger vessels, the skin becomes soft and of a dark red or purple color, and vesicles are formed beneath the cuticle, containing a thin serum.

Along with these local symptoms, there is a quick and tremulous pulse and of the typhoid character. The tongue is dry and of a brownish tinge; the skin very hot, and the patient restless; delirium, subsultus, tendenum, nausea, and hiccup frequently supervene. The part soon becomes cold and insensible, and sphacelus is completely established. If a vital part is the seat, the patient often dies; but sometimes it happens, that the constitutional symptoms slowly or suddenly yield; a red fissure is formed at the junction of the living and dead parts, the latter are separated by ulcerative absorption, granulations sprout up, and the patient may recover—provided the constitution has not been too much weakened by the disease.

TREATMENT.

First apply the alkaline poultice: if this should not succeed apply the yeast poultice. Yeast may be given internally. Give tonics to support the system.

In the treatment of dry mortification, the vegetable or mineral caustic may be applied in order to excite a different action in the parts. After this apply the yeast poultice.



POLYPUS OF THE NOSE.

A polypus may arise from the lining membrane of the nose, or from the superior or inferior spongy bone. It

shape it is usually pyraform. It will sometimes originate high in the nose, when instead of falling forward, takes a backward direction, and hangs behind the palate. A polypus is sometimes firm and very solid, in other instances it is extremely soft and tender. They are generally very vascular, and if wounded, bleed, profusely. They are very troublesome, and liable to produce inflammations on the surrounding parts.

TREATMENT.

Much advantage has been derived from the use of a snuff, in the treatment of polypus, made as follows:— Bayberry bark, blood root pulverized, and calomel, of each equal parts; this should be freely introduced up the nose. If the polypus is large and protrudes, it should be cut off by drawing a ligature around it tight, after which the snuff may be used to prevent its further growth.



TUMOURS.

Tumours are very various in their appearance, and may be produced by a variety of exciting causes. Their character is as various as the causes which produce them.

TREATMENT.

The first object should be to discuss them, by the application of the discutient ointment, cycuta plaster, hemlock plaster, juice of milk-weed, extract of sorrel and poke fomentations, poultices, &c. But if they should not succeed, the best way is to apply caustic directly over the tumour, so as to promote a discharge. The caustic should be rubbed on for the space of a minute or two, or until the surface becomes black; after this, poultices are to be applied. It will usually slough in about six or eight days. We have seen a great many cured in this way. It is much better than cutting; others are not so apt to follow.

CANCER,

Is an ulcerated schirrus ; and a schirrus is a dense hard tumor, resulting from that kind of inflammation, in which there is an increased afflux to the part inflamed, of the white part only, of the blood. A *phlegmon* is a tumor or swelling, from an increased afflux of red blood, &c. *Schirrus*, as just said, arises from an increased flow of the white portions of the blood.

The schirrous or hard tumor, which terminates in cancer, is unequal on the surface, unusually heavy, and the skin covering it puckered, and of a faint, bluish, or leaden hue, attended at first with a painful itching, and afterwards with sharp shooting, gnawing, or tearing pains. Sooner or later, acute inflammation takes place in the parts, in contact with the tumor, giving rise to adhesions between the tumor and those parts ; in this condition, the disease may remain for months and years, but eventually the skin cracks, or ulcerates, in one or more places, and from the fissures or ulcers is discharged a thin, acrimonious, and fetid matter, which corrodes the adjoining parts, and hurries on the ulcerative sloughing process. Sometimes a large cavity is suddenly produced, which discharges a bloody offensive matter. This cavity is rapidly filled up by a hard, irregular fungous mass, which protrudes beyond the edges of the sore, and often bleeds profusely of its own accord, or from the slightest irritation. Around the ulcer thus formed, the skin continues of a purple color, and its edges remain extremely hard. The surface of the sore is of a dark red color, and has a peculiar glassy lustre. The margins are elevated and jagged. The disease thus marching on, the patient becomes hectic and sooner or later, falls a victim to its ravages.

The medical world, have for ages been in search of a cure for cancer but they searched. they tugged, they toiled, to little purpose ; the knife, mercury, and the lancet have proved equally insufficient : and the *mineral* and *cutting* doctors have at last after killing their thousands, and tens of thousands, acknowledged their want of skill and have yielded the palm to the *humble* and *unpretending* disciples of *reformed Medicine*.

TREATMENT.

In the treatment of cancer or scirrhus, great attention must be paid to diet, and the exhibition of such medicine as are calculated to alter the morbid state of the fluids. To fulfil this indication, purge sparingly, and give freely the scrofulous and alterative syrup.

Ferris' plaster has long been a popular remedy, and much advantage is derived from its application in many cases, (see phiar.) The yeast poultice should be applied after the plaster. The plaster may be kept on from six to twelve hours. If it causes much pain, give anodynes. Sloughing will take place in a few days. Scirrhus tumors in the breasts are frequently taken out in this way, and perfectly healed.

In the first stage of scirrhus, there should always be an attempt made to discuss or resolve them, by the application of the dicutient ointment, cicuta plasters, fomentations, poultice, &c.

When there is great pains, apply an ointment made of stramonium. Much benefit is often derived from the use of the vegetable caustic, both in form of a powder and solution, applied in sufficient quantities, only to excite a healthy action and stimulate the surface. A few grains of the mineral caustic succeeds in some cases, applied around the edges.

SCROFULA.

An opinion has been entertained, that in scrofula a *morbid matter* is generated which has a *specific* influence on the lymphatic system; but there are no sufficient grounds for this notion. What the circumstances, however, are, which in a scrofulous habit render the lymphatic system so peculiarly liable to inflammation, we know not. Scrofula affects equally many other structures, and in all cases the inflammation which is excited has the same general character. It is of a chronic, languid kind. The scrofulous abscess is distinguished by its jagged and uneven sides. The pus which it contains, instead of having

a bland, uniform, cream-like appearance, is thin, or *ichorous*, and mixed with curdy flakes. The ulcer by which it is succeeded, has a smooth, obtuse, and overlapping margin. The surface of the sore is of a light red color, and the granulations are flabby and indistinct. For a great length of time, in spite of every care, it remains indolent, neither increasing nor diminishing in size.

There is hardly an organ or tissue of the body which can be considered free from the occasional ravages of scrofula. It appears sometimes in the head, in the form of small tumors, attached to the membranes, or imbedded in the substance of the brain or cerebellum, and laying the foundation of hydrocephalus. In the lungs, scrofula exhibits itself in the form of tubercles, scattered through their substance, modifying the character of inflammation in that organ, and producing genuine consumption. Scrofula, in like manner, attacks in their turn all the viscera of the abdomen, the liver, the peritonæum, the kidney, the ovaria, and above all the mesenteric glands.

Of the external parts of the body liable to scrofulous disease (independent of the lymphatic system) may be particularly specified, the tarsi, the thyroid gland, the mamma, the testicle, and lastly, the bones and other structures connected with joints.

All periods of life are liable to scrofulous disease, but the tendency to it is certainly greatest in childhood, and again when the growth of the body is completed.

TREATMENT.

The treatment of scrofula will be governed in a great measure by the consideration of the treatment of the two preceding diseases. In the treatment of all forms of scrofula, there should be a strict adherence to light, nourishing, and proper diet, warm clothing, steaming, fomenting, poulticing, and sea bathing when the weather is suitable, if it agrees with the patient.

In addition to the poultices recommended under the head of tumors, is the Indian turnip, yellow dock, and bitter-sweet poultices. The Indian turnip poultice, prepared either from the green or dry, is of great importance as an application to scrofulous tumors. But in scrofula,

of all the poultices or applications, perhaps those prepared from the bark of the root of the bayberry are the best. They often succeed in discussing tumors, but their value is greater in obstinate scrofulous ulcers. A poultice may be made of the powdered bark and meal, or flour, and milk or water; also a decoction of the same should be syringed in several times a day. Give the scrofulous syrup freely.



WHITE SWELLING.

According to the arrangement of some authors, white swelling comprehends. 1st. Inflammation of the synovial membrane. 2d. Morbid change of *structure* in the synovial membrane. 3d. Ulceration of the cartilages of joints. 4th. Scrofulous diseases of the joints, having its origin in the cancellous structure of bones.

Although all the joints are more or less exposed to this disease, the knee is the most frequent seat of it. A general swelling is first perceptible about the joint, followed by an obtuse pain, more or less severe, according to the peculiar character of the disease. The motion of the joint is gradually destroyed, several years will frequently elapse before it runs to a natural final termination, in which case the patient dies worn down with hectic. The various phenomena of the disease, is best described in voluminous elementary works on disease.

TREATMENT.

There is scarcely any disease, in which the good effects of steaming and fomenting with bitter herbs, are more obvious than in this. The steam of a decoction of the common fomentation should be directed to the leg covered with a blanket, often, and a quantity of the herbs bound on. If the leg should be flexed or bent by a contraction of the muscles, apply the green oil, common liniment, strengthening plaster, and warm friction. Skunk grease and angle worm oil, has been highly recommended. The stimulating liquid is good. Poultice with alka-

line bayberry bark, and Indian turnip poultices. Apply the discutient and green ointment. Purge and give freely of the scrofulous syrup. If suppuration takes place and ulcers form, treat them as has been laid down for other ulcers. Give anodynes when much pain.

BURNS.

These are common accidents ; great injury and sometimes death follow. The division which may be made of burns are, 1. *superficial, ulcerated, and carbunculous*.

In the superficial, the cuticle or scarf skin, is injured, but does not separate from the true skin, till a new one is formed. The pain and swelling is not great, and there is no vesication. In the second species, the skin is much injured, a serous or watery effusion takes place, the cuticle separates and leaves behind a painful and suppurating sore. The third species, or *carbunculous* or *sloughing*, is that in which the skin and adjoining parts are disorganised and converted into a hard eschar.

TREATMENT.

In recent scalds or burns, the first application to be made, is the stramonium ointment, olive oil, and borax, or a liniment made of equal parts of flax seed oil and lime water. After this, the common poultice. A little sweet oil may be used to prevent it from sticking. Borax and sweet oil should be added to the poultice sometimes. After the inflammation has subsided, dress with the black salve.

When fungus flesh arises, treat it as in ulcers. Apply the vegetable caustic, yellow wash, &c. Whoever makes use of the above treatment will soon discover its value.

SYPHILIS.

Syphilis is a venereal taint or poison, in its confirmed state in the system, exhibiting the following symptoms.

Chancre, or the true syphalitic sore, usually begins with a slight inflammation on some part of the genital organs, attended with itching. This itching is soon converted into pain. A pimple is in a short time formed, which on bursting up leaves an excavated ulcer, with hard, abrupt edges, and a surface coated with a gray tenacious matter. Chancres *may* occupy any part of the surface of the body.

Bubo always takes place in those lymphatic glands in the immediate neighborhood of chancre, while those more remote remain uncontaminated. The glands of the groin are the ones commonly affected. Bubo seldom arises from chronic chancre, but usually makes its appearance soon after the chancre is established. Very extensive ulcerations now and then follow a bubo. Buboes frequently arise from other causes than the absorption of venereal virus, as wounds and sores on the feet, &c.

Bubo should be looked upon as one of the principal symptoms in syphilis; for so long as the venereal virus is detained in the glands or their vessels, it may be considered as on its way to the system.

The secondary, or constitutional symptoms of syphilis, present themselves under several forms, which appear in regular order of succession. The parts first attacked are the throat, nose, mouth, tongue, and skin; and next to these the periosteum, fascia, tendons, bones, ligaments, eyes, ears, &c. The progressive stages of the disease are numerous, variable, and often horrible beyond description.

TREATMENT.

Buboes and chancres should be poulticed and fomented. Use the discutient ointment; if much pain, give anodynes, such as Dover's powders or black drops.

When ulcers form, apply the mild mineral caustic all over the surface; if this should not have a desired effect, use the mineral. Also apply the black and yellow wash, and dress with the black salve—poultice if much inflammation. In all cases the patient should take freely of the alterative syrup; add one or two grains of the muriate of mercury to each bottle. Cleanliness should be particularly enjoined. Avoid all stimulating liquors and diet.

GONORRHOEA.

The question whether gonorrhœa and syphilis be of the same or a different nature, has long been a disputed point. Those who have had the greatest opportunity for investigating them, consider them as distinct diseases.

The symptoms of virulent gonorrhœa are a slight titillation or uneasiness of the glans penis; a pouting or tumidity of the lips of the urethra. More or less redness or inflammation about the prepuce or glans, together with a fulness of the whole penis. These are soon followed by a discharge from the urethra, of a thin, whitish fluid, which soon changes into a thick tenacious purulent matter of a yellow color, and peculiar smell; considerable pain is now felt along the urethra and perineum; the urine is now discharged in a thin, wire-like, or forked stream, accompanied with a burning heat or severe scalding. By this time the inflammation attains considerable height; the glans penis becomes swollen, tense of a bright red color, and its surface has a shining aspect. As the inflammation rises, the color of the discharge from the same cause changes, from a deep yellow to a greenish tint. The symptoms are more or less modified by peculiarities of constitution, the disease acting with far more violence on some than on others.

A very painful affection often accompanies gonorrhœa, and is known by the name of *Chordee*, and is one of the most troublesome symptoms the patient has to contend with.

TREATMENT.

In the treatment of gonorrhœa, purgatives should occasionally be given. Diet light and vegetable. The diuretic drops should be taken, a teaspoon full three times a day, this will usually shortly cure; but when a discharge proves obstinate, after inflammatory symptoms are suppressed, use the following with a syringe several times a day: white vitriol, 8 grains, water, 8 ounces. Yellow and black wash also.

FISTULA IN ANO.

When an abscess forms in the cellular membrane, surrounding the rectum, or about the verge of the anus, and leaves after its contents are discharged, one or more small openings communicating with its cavity, the disease is denominated *fistula in ano*. Other appellations have also been invented, expressive of the particular situation of the fistulous orifice, and the extent of the disease. If the fistula opens upon the surface of the integuments, it is called an *external* fistula; if it communicates with the rectum, and not with the integuments, an *internal* fistula; and when there is an opening in the gut and another through the skin, a *complete* fistula.

The formation of a fistula in ano, is often denoted by rigors, a painful swelling about the ischium or perinæum, difficulty of passing urine, by irritation in the rectum and neck of the bladder. During the progress of the disease, the patient, in many instances, suffers immensely; at other times, however, the abscess forms and breaks almost without the patient being aware of its existence. Generally the abscess communicates with the integuments by a single opening; occasionally three or four are met with. In healthy constitutions the abscess does not differ from that of the common phlegmon, met with in the other parts of the cellular tissue. In consumptive and scrofulous patients, however, the disease often assumes a different shape. The surface of the integuments is covered with an erysipelatous inflammation, the fever, sickness, and pain, are very considerable, the matter is discharged in small quantity, and from a sloughy, ill conditioned opening, or from a ragged unhealthy surface.

TREATMENT.

The usual remedy for this obstinate and troublesome disease is an operation, the want of success of which, is known to all. The following has generally been found successful with us. The great indication to fulfil, in the treatment of this disease, is to remove the callous state of the parts, and excite a preternatural discharge, by the application of *stimulating* and *caustic* remedies. Every part of the sinus should be known by the use of the probe.

The first remedy will be mineral caustic. After the use of Castile soap suds with a proper syringe, a small quantity of that, (from half a grain to two grains) should be introduced to the farthest extremity of the ulcer, by means of the end of a probe, tent, or lint pushed in with the probe, this may be removed again with the sharp end of the probe, a little bent. The caustic may be used once in two and five days, for a long time, in the mean time syringe with Castile soap suds, keep in a tent lubricated with the white ointment, and dress with a plaster of black salve. Keep the dressing on by a bandage attached to another one, fastened around the body. If this should not succeed, the vegetable caustic is to be used next, in a similar manner, but in larger quantities, also, in form of a solution with a syringe. This will usually cause a free discharge of matter in a short time.

If there is an opening of the fistula into the rectum, after the above treatment, for a while we usually pass a ligature around, through the opening, by introducing a probe curved down the sinus, and up the rectum; tie the ligature to the end of the probe, and draw it back. By gently tightening the ends, the septum is cut off in several days.

A strong decoction made of equal parts of blue flag root, scabish roots and tops, white hellabore, (solomon, seal, and indian turnip, thrown up, twice a day, is said to be a valuable remedy. With all remedies, the bowels should be kept open with proper physic; diet light.

There is often a diseased state of the lungs in this complaint, this should be attended to.

The above treatment is applicable for all kinds of fistulae about the anus, or perineum.

TINEA CAPITIS.

Tinea capitis, (the porrigo scutulata of Willan,) commonly called ringworm of the scalp, or *scald head*, is an affection of a very peculiar kind. Its leading feature is the falling off of the hair, arising (according to Mr. Plumbe, who has paid great attention to this subject,) from excessive excitement of the vessels of the scalp, which

deprives the structure secreting the hair of its due nourishment. It undoubtedly originates in the application of an infectious matter, and spreads by the secretion of the pustules which are formed. It is a singularly obstinate complaint, and resists, in many cases, for a length of time the best directed exertions of medical art.

TREATMENT.

Wash the head with soap-suds, then apply the white ointment, or sulphur mixed with the white ointment. If this should not succeed, use the dicutient and tar ointment. The tar ointment is made by mixing tar with the white ointment. If this should fail, add white hellebore.

A wash made of blood root, and vinegar, is very good. In the mean time, exhibit freely of a decoction of bitter-sweet, and yellow dock. Occasionally purge. Also give the alterative syrup.

WHITLOW,

Is an inflammation of the fingers. Various tissues are occasionally the seat of the disease. Hence various appearances are observed in their progress and termination and equally various degrees of suffering endured by the patients, afflicted with this tormenting disease. It frequently commences on the bone, immediately under its investing membrane.

TREATMENT.

In the forming stage, hold the finger in ley foment, steam and poultice, with the alkaline poultice. If supuration takes place, treat as a common ulcer.

HÆMORRHOIDS, OR PILES,

Hæmorrhoids vary very much in size and form. Some are hardly larger than a pea, while others exceed a hen's

egg in size. The symptoms which they occasion may be divided into such as occur in accidental piles (which are obviously referable to the same condition of the body which produces the tumours,) and such as attend permanent piles (as plainly referable to their bulk and mechanical inconvenience). Accidental piles are frequently attended with a sense of heat and pain at the extremity of the rectum and in the loins, headache, and giddiness, flatulence, and not uncommonly marks of general feverishness, such as dryness of the mouth and fauces, scanty and high-colored urine, with a frequent desire to void the urine and fæces. The evacuation by the bowels is painful, and very often occasions the tumours to bleed. In many cases they inflame, sometimes without any obvious cause, but more usually from becoming strangulated by the sphincter ani. The pain which they then create is often extremely acute.

TREATMENT.

Equal parts of cream of tartar and sulphur should be given in the mornings to keep the bowels open.

Externally, steam, foment, and poultice, with the alkaline poultice. Apply Marshal's pile liquid by means of lint introduced far up the bowels. Sulphur combined with the white ointment is of great importance, also the discutient ointment applied to the tumours. When used warm by a fire, an ointment made of bitter-sweet, black alder, and mullen is very good. Where the tumours cannot be discussed and protrude, sometimes it is necessary to apply a ligature and cut them off. Injection of a solution of the sugar of lead is very good; but to effect a permanent cure, the pile tocrhes must be used: they should be lubricated with sweet oil, and two or three introduced up the rectum a day, if much pain, give Dover's powders. Where there is hemorrhage, or bleeding, apply the stiptic powder.

PROLAPSUS ANI.

From habitual costiveness, straining at stool, diarrhæa,

dysentary, hæmorrhoids, strictures in the urethra, stone in the bladder, drastic purgatives, irritation from ascarides, and various other causes, the lining membrane of the rectum, immediately above the sphincter, is sometimes inverted, and protruded to a greater or less distance beyond the verge of the anus. Infants, and very old people, are most liable to the complaint; which, if the tumour be large, recent, and accompanied by much inflammation, may terminate in gangrene, or give rise to symptoms of strangulated hernia. In general, however, this result is not to be apprehended, and the disease must be considered as rather inconvenient and troublesome than dangerous. In some cases, there is reason to believe that there is an *inter-susception* of the gut itself, instead of an inversion of its lining membrane.

TREATMENT.

Open the bowels with equal parts of sulphur and cream of tartar, if much inflammation, steam the parts, foment and poultice, then apply the white and discutient ointment. A bandage applied, fastened to another, surrounding the body is very good. Give injections of the astringent decoction, also wash the parts with it.

PROCIDENTIA UTERI, OR PROLAPBUS.

A very slight descent of the womb produces all the symptoms of this disease. Pain in the back, sides, epigastrium, groins, and hips, terminating in the labia; a dragging or bearing down, as if the womb would fall out; stranguary, weight about the fundament, with a discharge of mucus, variable in quantity, from the vagina; blood, also, at the monthly period, instead of the menses; and often the stranguary is not constant, the thighs feel numb, and the patient cannot walk easily:

The explanation of these symptoms is evident: the action of the blood-vessels is no doubt increased by the displacement of the womb, which produces the pain in the back; the stretching of the ligaments of the womb causes

the pain in the groins, and the dragging, bearing down-pain arises, from the constant effort in the muscles to protrude the uterus as a foreign body from its place ; this extends to the part adjacent, fundament and bladder, the neck of which is also pressed upon producing stranguary ; all these complaints cease on lying down.

Other symptoms arise of a more general nature ; the patient becomes hysterical, or complains of various ills referred to the belly and the breast ; colics, indigestion, wind in the bowels ; diminished appetite, ; hiccup ; spasms of the diaphragm ; and if she is of a nervous habit, is subject to the endless variety of affections which characterize this temperament.

TREATMENT.

In the treatment of this disease, the patient should be confined to the bed or sofa, bowels occasionally evacuated. The astringent decoction should be thrown up with a female syringe, three or four times a day. Give the restorative cordial to restore the tone of the system.

If this should not succeed, introduce the sponge or gum elastic bag. The gum elastic bag, should be filled full with fluid or air and tied tight. Before it is introduced let it be well lubricated with sweet oil. It should after taken out, be washed with soap suds ; this will usually cure if worn long enough. Sometimes it is necessary to use it six months.

MAMMARY ABSCESS.

When suppuration forms soon after delivery, it proceeds from cold or a large acidulation of milk, which by distending the breast irritates and gives rise to inflammation. It is seldom, however, that an abscess forms until five or six weeks or even two or three months have elapsed. A swelling of the breast, accompanied by throbbing and pain, and soon followed by coldness or a severe chill, are the first symptoms. To these succeed restlessness, thirst and fever. Soon after the breast enlarges in every direction, becomes

very tense and so exceedingly painful that the patient can scarcely bear the pressure of her own clothes. The secretion of milk is interrupted altogether, or its appearance and properties very much altered. Suppuration is generally established in eight or ten days, but sometimes the process goes on for several weeks, during which intolerable suffering and distress are experienced. The matter is not always collected in one cavity, but may be lodged in separate cysts.

TREATMENT.

The first object should be to prevent suppuration. Purge with the bilious physic; steam and foment. Apply the green oil, and common liniment. Triturate camphor in a mortar with a little alcohol, to a teaspoon full of this, add a tablespoon full of sweet oil, apply this to the breast, in the meantime warm it with a smoothing iron. Use the sear cloth plaster.

If the swelling does not subside, and symptoms of inflammation attend, poultice with the common alkaline and yeast poultice. If ulcers form, treat them as common ulcers. Keep in a tent—inject the yellow wash. Dress with the black salve.

RICKETS.

This is comparatively a rare disease; it rarely occurs before the ninth month or after the second year. One of its earliest symptoms, is a peculiar softness or flaccidity of the flesh. The body emaciates; the cheeks are wan and sallow; the abdomen protuberant; the stools unhealthy in their aspect; the urine morbid. The process of ossification is peculiarly imperfect, and this leads to many of the most characteristic features of the complaint. The head appears large, with respect to the body, and the forehead prominent. As the disease advances, the bones become soft, and the distortions observed, gradually take place. This disease is seldom fatal.

TREATMENT.

Much benefit will sometimes be derived from the use of the alterative and scrofulous syrup in this disease; also the restorative cordial. Externally, apply the green oil, strengthening plaster, and stimulating liquid. Exercise in the open air. Diet should be nourishing.

HYDROCELE OF MEN AND CHILDREN.

The tunica vaginalis is naturally bedewed with a thin serum, which, by lubricating its surface and that of the testicle, enables them to move freely upon each other. This fluid when secreted in undue quantity, constitutes hydrocele—a disease of frequent occurrence, and met with in patients of every age and constitution. If attended to in the commencement, the tumor will be found to occupy the lower part of the scrotum, and gradually to extend towards the abdominal ring. In shape it is pyriform, and to the touch elastic—feeling like a bladder distended with water. When pressed upon, little or no pain is experienced by the patient, except at the posterior part of the swelling where the testis is situated. The rugæ of the scrotum generally remain unaltered, even in hydroceles of the greatest magnitude, and sometimes the tumor attains an enormous bulk. In ordinary cases, however, the tunica vaginalis seldom contains more than a pint of fluid. This fluid in color is either perfectly limpid, or else yellowish. The disease is usually confined to one side. It is sometimes difficult to distinguish between hydrocele and other complaints that bear a resemblance to it. Much may be learnt from the history of the disease. The hydrocele invariably begins below, and very gradually ascends. The swelling in sarcocele, or scirrhus testicle, is uniform throughout, is accompanied with pain, is inelastic, and heavier when handled than hydrocele. When recent, hydrocele is generally transparent, if examined by placing the tumor between a lamp and the surgeon. From hernia it differs materially—The one commencing

above, the other below. In hernia, moreover, an impulse is communicated to the finger when the patient is directed to cough. This is not the case with hydrocele.

TREATMENT.

The collection of water in the scrotum of infants may frequently be cured, by steaming, fomenting, and the application of the astringent decoction. Also that of men. But in the latter; if this does not succeed, the only remedy is tapping, and after the water is drawn off, inject with some stimulating liquid, such as a weak solution of the sulphate of zinc, or port wine, this should stay in, about five minutes. Adhesive inflammation will take place, and a cure will follow. Great caution is necessary, that no fluid gets in the cellular part of the scrotum, as sloughing will follow.

Sometimes a cure is made by putting in a seton or tent, and producing a discharge.

HERNIA.

A protrusion of any of the abdominal viscera, covered by the peritoneum, through natural or preternatural apertures in the tendinous or muscular parietes, may be denominated hernia. The term has been extended, though improperly, to several other diseases bearing no analogy to the one under present consideration.

Hernia is a very common disease: so much so, that one eighth of mankind, it has been imagined, is troubled with it—a proportion, however, immensely overrated. Certain general appellations expressive of the particular condition or contents of an hernial tumor, are employed by most modern surgeons—reducible, irreducible, and strangulated hernia, enterocele, epiplocele, and entero-epiplocele. By *reducible* hernia is understood a tumor easily replaced by pressure or by laying the patient in the horizontal position, but descending again as soon as the pressure is discontinued, or the upright posture resumed.

The term *irreducible* hernia implies permanent protrusion.

sion from adhesion between the sac and its contents, or from extraordinary bulk. *Strangulated hernia* is that state of the disease in which the parts are confined by stricture, and are liable to mortify, unless the stricture be speedily removed.

TREATMENT.

Reduce it, after this, apply a plaster of the extract of oak bark. Then put on a truss. The strangulated hernia, must be treated by steaming, fomentations, and the application of the green ointment, and alkaline poultice, until inflammation is suppressed, if any; give injections. By these means the system will be relaxed, and inflammation controlled, so that a reduction can often be produced. Keep the patient in a horizontal position.



STRICTURES OF THE ANUS.

This disease is a permanent contraction of the sphincter muscle of the anus, by which the passage becomes much diminished in size. It is occasioned by inflammation which gradually subsiding, leaves the muscle in a tense irritable state.

TREATMENT.

This disease may generally be cured by introducing candles of different sizes up the rectum, made of equal parts of bayberry and beef tallow. Injections are very good; also, the pill troches.



OPHTHALMIA.

The structure most frequently affected is the conjunctiva, in function resembling a mucous membrane, though in appearance more nearly allied to those of the serous class. The inflammation of this membrane is characterized in mild cases, and where the disease arises from common causes, by pain, intolerance of

light, a sensation of sand in the eye, headache, redness of the eye, and an *increased flow of tears*. The general febrile symptoms are slight, or perhaps altogether wanting. The disease gradually goes off without leaving any permanent bad effects.

In the severer forms of ophthalmia, the invasion is often sudden, the progress of the disease rapid, and its result disorganization of all or some of the structures necessary to vision. Besides the symptoms already enumerated, there occur in this form of ophthalmia swelling of the eyelids, and secretion of purulent matter by the inflamed membrane, often in enormous quantity, and from a very early period of the disease. The conjunctiva quickly loses all traces of transparency, and exhibits instead, a mass of spongy red granulations, in which the transparent cornea may sometimes be observed as at the bottom of a well. This inflammatory thickening of the membrane, from the increase of its vessels, is called *chemosis*. The other symptoms are in a proportionate degree of violence. The headache is excruciating. The smallest ray of light gives intense pain. The febrile symptoms which accompany this state of disease run high, and are for the most part aggravated towards evening.

This is the disease known by the name of the purulent or Egyptian ophthalmia. Its further progress depends in a great degree upon the measures of treatment which may be adopted in its early stage. If these are judicious, the symptoms begin to yield about the third day, and in the course of some weeks the eye is restored to its natural state. But if the disease be unusually violent, or its early stages neglected, disorganization of the eye follows to a greater or less extent.

Sometimes the inflammation spreads to such a degree, that every part of the ball of the eye becomes involved in one uniform mass of suppuration, and the eye is totally lost. This, however, is rare. The disorganization is generally confined to one or other of its different structures. The inflammation, for instance, spreads from the conjunctiva covering the sclerotic coat, to that more delicate part of the membrane which extends over the cornea, and the consequence is either opacity or thickening of the cornea, occasioning total

blindness ;—or upon ulceration of the cornea, a state of disease attended with a remarkable degree of pain ;—or lastly, *interstitial* ulceration of the cornea. This last affection is, correctly speaking, ulceration of the proper membrane of the cornea, the delicate layer of conjunctiva which covers it remaining entire. This kind of ulcerated cornea occurs often in debilitated states of the system, and is accompanied by a deficiency, or total absence, of that action in the vessels which is necessary to repair the loss of substance.

TREATMENT.

A great deal has been said respecting the treatment of the eye and its diseases, for which there is almost an innumerable number of remedies ; so much so, that almost every practitioner can have his separate class. In order to subdue the inflammation, which is the characteristic of ophthalmia, many practitioners endeavor to proceed theoretically, others empirically. Some deplete, others make use of remarkably stimulating applications, such as the nitrate of silver, (lunar caustic,) sulphate of zinc, (white vitriol,) and preparations of mercury, while a third class ; emollients and sudorifics.

What has been called the general principle of treating acute inflammation of late, has been the most common practice—the principle of which, is bleeding at the arm, opening the temporal artery, cupping the temples, active purging with calomel, jalap, and other drastic purgatives, blistering, and nauseating doses of emetic tartar. It would appear almost incredible to say, though a fact, that many patients by venesection, had lost between 60 and 100 ounces of blood in a short space of time. by the management of injudicious and unskilful practitioners, and thus injuring and debilitating the system without the least value, or without balancing the effects upon the system at large, against the importance of the organ. The injuries of bleeding we see exemplified in many instances of disease and injury. A patient laboring under peripneumonia is relieved by excessive bleeding, of his attack, and dies a month afterwards of dropsy. A person threatened

with apoplexy, who, by the advice of his physician, is cupped once a month, soon falls a victim to erysipelas.

A practice nearly as common as the above is used in the treatment of the inflammation of the eye, which above all, with regard to the application of remedies to an inflamed organ, is the most absurd. It consists in irritating the delicate membranes of the eye, by the applications of stimulating drops and ointments—scarifying—cutting, and puncturing the inside of the eye lids and balls—the direct application of caustic, blue-stone, and other escharotics. The advantage of mild stimulants are fully admitted, at a proper season, but during the presence of active inflammation their use is as revolting to common sense as is injurious. We are satisfied that many eyes have been thus destroyed.

An anomalous species of ophthalmia, or a *pseudo-ophthalmia*, is produced by it, which differs as much from the real character of the disease, in either of its forms, and may be as readily distinguished from it, as an artificial from a real flower.

But it is useless to preach of the merits or demerits of practice. It is a true saying among the virtuous, “that examples were better than precepts:” with great propriety it can be applied in the practice of medicine. The object of this work has been to treat of the Reformed Practice, as so called, which in this disease, a considerable part of which, we must say, is reform indeed, or altogether different from what is generally pursued. Its origin was principally with Dr. Beach, who by the almost general success with the vast number of cases which he has treated, has gained a reputation hardly equalled in the treatment of inflammation of the eye, the subduing of which is the great object of all practitioners, before disorganization is produced.

If there is great pain in the head, to which there is often a great determination of blood, steam it by directing the steam of a hot decoction of hops and wormwood or of the common fomentation to the eyes and forehead, after being covered by a woolen blanket; let the feet and legs be placed in warm water or weak ley—endeavor to equalise the circulation as much as possible by determining to the surface with sudorifics:—

casionally the sudorific tincture, with warm water, catnip, or peppermint tea may be given. At night let there be a poultice applied, made of the fine pulverized and bolted slippery elm bark, directly to the eye, or over a thin piece of muslin. This cataplasm will often be varied, according to the symptoms; it should always be made moist, and sometime before its application, or before morning, it will become extremely dry. At times it should be prepared after the common way in equal parts of milk and water, with a due proportion of Indian meal, applied warm, at other times cool; sometimes less water and more milk; if the inflammation should not subside as fast as would be wished, let it be changed and prepared in a solution of borax, or what is called the ophthalmia wash—the effects of this is often speedily to give relief. Through the day the patient may be directed to wash often and freely with the ophthalmia wash—sometimes three or four ounces may be made use of in a day. Great objections have been made to poultices, which we shall not answer here, but let it suffice to say, perhaps the wise men did not know what kind of one to use, or how to apply it. The bark of the slippery elm seems admirably calculated for the eye, on account of the great quantity of mucilage which it contains. A mucilage of the bark or the pith of sassafras may be put into the eye through the day.

Purge with the bilious physic, as often as once in two or three days in acute cases; sometimes great benefit is derived from vomiting with the common emetic of this work, by relieving the head and determining to the surface. Cups may be applied to the temples.

A discharge may be produced in some cases on the back, or inflammation excited there to act on the principle of a counter irritant. This should be made with the caustic of potash, applied after the flesh is a little moistened for the space of a minute less or more, until a portion of flesh an inch in diameter, becomes dark colored, and roughed up. If much inflammation follows, poultice, it usually sloughs in about eight days, when it discharges very freely, let the sore be dressed with the black salve, or some other, in applying it, it is often painful. At times

when there is much pain in the eyes, fomentations of poppies may be used.

After the inflammation has subsided, it frequently will be found necessary to cautiously make use of some stimulating application, such as the diluted mineral, spiritous, and stimulating eye water (see phar.). Bakers' eye balsam is used with the best effect. Let the patient accustom himself to the light, and cool air. The diet should be light, and easy of digestion. Great judgment and discrimination, is necessary in using the above treatment with success, if judiciously prescribed the patient often finds himself shortly relieved, with all his usual bodily strength and vigor.

It may be necessary in some cases to make use of an alterative course of treatment, for this purpose, give the alterative syrup ; also, cup the temples.

TREATMENT OF OPACITY OF THE CORNEA.

If much inflammation, treat it as in ophthalmia. If not, or when it subsides, apply the mineral eye water. In this disease, the white ointment is used with success, applied by means of a camels hair pencil, twice a day, the size of a grain of wheat. The applications must be stimulating in this disease. In order to remove the defect, a solution of the vegetable caustic may be applied ; also, the stimulating eye water.

STAPHYLOMA.

Pustular ophthalmia, as this is called, sometimes spreads to the deep-seated membranes. The iris in particular is frequently so affected, and the consequences are various. Lymph or pus may be effused into the anterior chamber of the eye. If pus is effused to any extent, the cornea is pushed forward, presenting the appearance called hypopion, or poached eye ; or it may be ruptured and the iris protruded, constituting that painful and nearly incurable condition called *staphyloma*.

TREATMENT.

To the protruded part, apply a solution of the vegeta-

ble caustic, or the mineral eye water, if this should fail, the caustic of potash may be used, in preference to the knife. If much inflammation is produced, apply poultices.

AMAUROSIS, OR PALSY OF THE SIGHT.

This disease is sometimes attended with a gradual loss of sight, dilatation or excessive contraction of the pupil: in the latter case it is preceded by severe pains; sometimes motes and small bodies are seen floating in the air, or there is a mist, or a net-work like black lace before the eye.

The remote causes of amaurosis are strong passions; as, terror, anger, exposure to intense light or heat: a stroke of lightning, inflammation of the eye, tumors pressing on the optic nerve; apoplexy, scrofula, epilepsy, or lues venerea; severe exercise, contusions, immoderate venery, drunkenness, irregularity of the digestive organs, suppressed hemorrhages, eruptions, and old sores, fevers, and poisonous cosmetics. In some cases the predisposition has been hereditary.

TREATMENT.

In the treatment of amaurosis there should be recommended, the employment in the first instance, of such medicines as are calculated to regulate the functions of the digestive organs, and subsequently, such general tonics as the patient can bear. The exhibition of emetics and purgatives, has been found to be exceedingly useful. The common emetic powder may be given as often as once or twice a week, for a short time, purge with the bilious physic and dyspeptic pills. The pills should be given at night. Often the pills may be taken on the same day with the emetic, after the stomach has been completely evacuated.

The application of stimulating remedies and electricity is sometimes of the greatest benefit. These plans are to be assisted at the same time, by producing a discharge on the back of the neck, or the application of an issue to the nape. Poultice if it excites much inflammation, let

the discharge be produced by the application of caustic. The stomach must be invigorated by nourishing and light diet, exercise in the open air, with the moderate use of wine, restorative cordial, wine bitters, and capsicum pill.

An infusion of the Skull cap may be exhibited, in the mean time, sinapisms to the feet and legs. Reproduce any habitual discharge or cutaneous disorder.

TORTICOLLIS, OR WRY NECK.

From exposure to cold, from rheumatism, twists of the neck, or strains of the platysma myoides, and sterno-mastoid muscles, from the cicatrices of burns, &c. the head is sometimes drawn to one side, or towards the shoulder or sternum, in such a way as to produce great deformity. Occasionally, the disease arises from paralysis; in other instances, it proceeds from some defect or malformation of the vertebræ of the neck. The clavicular is oftener affected than the sternal portion of the sterno-mastoid muscle; each, however, is liable to be converted into a substance resembling gristle. The whole of the muscle, also, is shortened, has an indurated, stringy, feel, and is painful to the touch. Great pain is frequently experienced upon attempting forcibly to restore the head to its natural position.

TREATMENT.

Endeavour to relax the muscles, by the application of poultices, ointments, oils, &c. Much relief may be given sometimes by the application of caustic, and putting in a tent.

CARBUNCLE.

This disease resembles a boil, in some respects; it differs from it however, in having no central core, and in terminating by *slough* instead of *suppuration*. A carbuncle is a deep seated, circumscribed, hard and very,

painful swelling, of a livid hue, attended with excessive nettling, and burning heat. Symptoms of common inflammation sometimes attend the commencement of the complaint; but these are soon superseded by vesications, containing an acrid sanious fluid, which is discharged from numberless pores, occupying every part of the surface of the tumour, and communicating with cellular cavities in a mortified state. Constitutional symptoms sometimes attend from the commencement. There is nausea, loss of appetite, fever, great prostration of strength, want of sleep, to such an extent in some instances to destroy the patient; but most persons recover from the attack, after having suffered immensely.

TREATMENT.

The treatment of this disease, is much the same as all other sores, apply poultices, fomentations and washes. The flaxseed poultice is very good.

HERPES.

The term herpes, is appropriated to vessicular disease, preceded by febrile languor, and other marks of constitutional disturbance. The vesicles pass through a regular course of increase, maturation and decline, terminating in most cases, in about a fortnight or three weeks. Herpetic vesicles are distinguished in their running in distinct but irregular clusters, appearing in quick succession, but set near together upon an inflamed base, which extends some way beyond the margin of each cluster. The most frequent form of this disease, is that which is called the shingles. Very little is known regarding its causes.

TREATMENT.

In the treatment of this disease, apply the following applications, one after the other, until the disease is cured.

1. The white ointment.
2. Sulphur ointment.
3. A wash, made by dissolving 2 or 3 grains of the muriate of mercury in alcohol.
4. Blood root and vinegar.
- 5.

Tincture of lobelia. 6, Solution of alum. 7. Tetter ointment. 8. Leaden plaster. If much inflammation, poultice. In the mean time purge and give the alterative and scrofulous syrup.

HYDROPHOBIA.

This disease is considered by all pathologists as the consequence of a morbid poison, introduced into the system by the bite of a rabid animal.

For two or three days previous to the coming on of the more unequivocal symptoms of the disease, the patient often complains of chilliness, some degree of headache, languor and lassitude, low spirits, and restlessness. Frequently also a sense of coldness and numbness is experienced in the bitten part, occasionally amounting to actual pain. This, in some instances, extends up the limb, and it has been observed to follow the course of the nerves rather than that of the absorbents. The freedom of the lymphatic glands from disease, indeed, has often been noticed, and adduced as an argument that the disorder does not depend on the absorption of any virus.

The second or *confirmed* stage of hydrophobia commences with that symptom which gives name to the disease—the horror of liquids. The distressing sense of suffocation, and the violent spasmodic agitation of the whole body, brought on by the sight of liquids, or the attempt to drink, is unquestionably the most remarkable symptom of the disorder. By degrees the disposition to spasm increases so much upon the patient, that not merely the sight of water, but the least exertion of speaking or moving, the slightest noise, or the entrance of a stranger into the room, brings it on. Extreme irritability and sensibility of the whole frame are apparent indeed in every action of the patient, and constitute the unvarying feature of the complaint.

TREATMENT.

If the patient has been bit by a mad dog, let him

drink freely of a tea made of skull-cap—apply cups to the wound—make a discharge by the application of caustic where the bite was made, keep it up for weeks. If symptoms of madness should come on, give injections containing large quantities of laudanum.

TETANUS.

The approaches of this disorder are commonly gradual, and it slowly advances to its worst stage. One of the first symptoms of incipient tetanus is a sensation of stiffness about the neck, which increasing by degrees renders all motion of the head painful and difficult. The patient now experiences an uneasiness about the root of the tongue, which soon passes into difficult deglutition. The aversion to swallowing in this disease is often so great, that the patient refuses all nourishment, and the administration of remedies is rendered equally hopeless. The temporal and masseter muscles are at the same time affected, and the lower jaw being thereby firmly closed, the state of trismus becomes fully developed. In slight cases, the affection does not advance further; but this can rarely be anticipated. The tetanic disposition once formed, proceeds, with but few exceptions, to exhibit its deeper and more formidable shades of character.

One of the most constant and remarkable symptoms of confirmed tetanus, is a severe pain, referred to the bottom of the sternum, and darting from this point backwards to the spine, evidently in the direction of the diaphragm. This *constrictive* pain is the precursor of more violent spasms of all the muscles of the neck and trunk. As these increase in force, the body is raised in the form of a bow; and thus it remains until the disease has reached its acme, when the flexors act so powerfully as to counterbalance the extensors, and to retain the body in a straight and immoveable position.

In this extreme period of the disorder, every muscle of voluntary motion becomes affected. The eyes are fixed in their sockets; the forehead is drawn into furrows; the whole countenance undergoes the most ex-

traordinary change. The muscles both of the upper and lower extremities partake of the general spasm and stiffness. Those of the abdomen are strongly contracted, and the belly feels hard and tense as a board. At length a violent convulsion puts an end to the life and sufferings of the patient. These sufferings are usually greater than it is possible for words to express. Their continuance, even during the ordinary period of the disease, would hardly be compatible with life, but for the occasional *remissions*, which, in common with the spasms, they undergo. The muscular relaxation, however, is trifling, and the intervals of ease but momentary. The recurrence of aggravated spasm frequently happens without any assignable cause. Sometimes it is determined by the efforts of the patient to swallow, speak, or change his posture.

When the spasms are general and violent, the pulse is contracted, hurried and irregular. The respiration, too, is similarly affected; but, during a remission, both usually return to their ordinary state; and feverish symptoms are rarely met with, even in idiopathic tetanus. The same remarkable freedom from disease characterizes the abdominal functions. The appetite not unfrequently remains good throughout the whole course of the disorder. The tongue is always moist, and the skin natural in an early period of the disease. As it advances, however, a cold sweat covers the surface; and there supervenes obstinate constipation of the bowels, requiring the most drastic purgatives. The mental faculties are sometimes preserved entire even to the last. Delirium frequently comes on in other cases.

TREATMENT.

Promote perspiration by the warm bath and steam bath. Give freely of the tincture of Lobelia and cayenne. If the disease has been brought on by a wound, make it discharge freely, by applying the caustic of potash or the vegetable caustic. Put the wound in ley. Give antispasmodic injections. This treatment has cured many.

SARCOCELE.

This is a disease of the body of the testicle, and as the term implies, consists in general, in such an alteration made in the structure of it, as produces a resemblance to a hard fleshy substance, instead of that firm, soft vascular texture, of which it is, in a natural and healthy state, composed. Every species of sarcoccele consists principally in an enlargement, induration, and obstruction of the vascular part of the testicle, but this alteration is attended with a variety of circumstances, and has been the means of many distinctions.

TREATMENT.

If much inflammation, steam the testicle or scrotum over a decoction of the common fomentation often, then apply poultice, discutient, stramonium, and white ointment; also the sear-cloth plaster; sometimes cup the parts. In the meantime let the patient take freely of the alterative syrup. They are often very obstinate and take a long time to suppress the enlargement. If suppuration should take place, and ulcers form, treat as sinus ulcers; inject the black and yellow wash. Let the testicle be suspended in a bag--continue the poultices.

SALT RHEUM.

This disease is known to almost every one. It sometimes afflicts most in the winter time, then again in the summer. The skin is rough, dry, and sometimes cracked, attended with intense itching.

TREATMENT.

Wash altogether with spirits: apply freely a tincture of black ash bark—this will generally cure. If it should fail, apply the white, discutient, and yellow dock ointment. Take freely of the alterative and scrofulous syrup. Occasionally purge. Diet, vegetable and light. The tester ointment is good.

STRICTURE OF THE URETHRA.

This is a very common complaint ; more common, indeed, than is generally imagined. It may proceed from various causes—from gonorrhœa, or the remedies employed in the cure of that disease ; from external violence ; from irritation within the urethra produced by the passage of calculi, or the application of blisters to the perinæum or other parts of the body ; from excessive indulgence in venery, or unnatural prolongation of the venereal act ; from enlargement of the prostate gland ; from stone in the bladder, &c. It is somewhat remarkable, however, that the disease seldom makes its appearance until years have elapsed, and the effect of the causes above enumerated has appeared to cease.

The *symptoms* of stricture of the urethra, are *constitutional* and *local*. Among the former may be enumerated disorder of the digestive functions, general irritability of the system, various mental emotions, severe chills, followed by high fever and profuse perspiration. All patients however, are not subject to the febrile paroxysm. The most common local symptoms are, a slight discharge of matter from the urethra ; a frequent desire to evacuate the urine, which issues in drops, or in a forked, twisted, wiry, or thread-like stream ; nocturnal emissions ; scalding of the urine ; uneasiness about the anus and perinæum. Persons troubled with strictures, are extremely liable to cold, which greatly aggravates the symptoms. Excess in eating or drinking will produce the same result. During copulation, it frequently happens that a stricture, by interrupting the flow of semen, occasions it to be forced backwards into the bladder, from which it is afterwards discharged the first time the patient makes water.

TREATMENT.

In strictures of the urethra, previous to entering the bougee or catheter, endeavour to suppress inflammation, and relax the parts by fomentations, warm baths, and poultices. Then let the bougee be dipped in sweet oil, and introduced into the bladder. Sometimes it is necessary to try a great many times before it can be got past the stric-

ture, too much force should not be used, for fear of lacerating the parts, press gently on the stricture with the bougee for some time, and then withdraw. When the passage is open for the water, give freely of diuretics, such as mint tea, and sweet spirits of nitre, parsely tea, &c.

COXALGIA, OR HIP DISEASE.

PERSONS of all ages are liable to this disease, which is exceedingly common, especially among weak and scrofulous children. The symptoms in the commencement are not always strongly marked. Often the first evidence the surgeon has is a slight pain in the knee, and a perceptible emaciation of the whole limb. In a short time pain is felt about the trochanter and groin, to relieve which the patient supports his whole weight upon the sound thigh and leg; hence the diseased limb is commonly directed forward and bent at the knee, and appears considerably elongated. This apparent increase of length is altogether owing to an inclination of the pelvis and a corresponding change in the vretebræ. Many children suffer comparatively little for months together, whilst others are scarcely free from pain about the hip or knee during the whole course of the disease. In a few instances ankylosis is established, and a cure effected without, as far as can be observed, the formation of pus; generally, however, this fluid becomes manifest after the complaint has made some progress, and is sometimes secreted so copiously as to surround the head and upper extremity of the thigh bone, forming a large abscess, which may remain stationary for months, and at last discharge itself by one or more openings about the hip and groin. In the mean time the acetabulum and head of the femur undergo important changes. Their cartilaginous coverings are first destroyed by ulceration, then the bones are rendered carious and crumble away, the head of the thigh bone is partially or entirely destroyed, and being removed from the socket, the shaft is drawn upwards by the action of the muscles, and the limb shortened by several inches. During these

different changes the constitution is gradually undermined by hectic, and dies.

TREATMENT.

This formidable and very distressing disease, may often be cured by a well directed and persevering course of treatment. The patient must be made aware of the nature of the case, and the impossibility of cure, and even sometimes any material amendment, in months and sometimes years, in order to secure confidence, and that he may wait patiently the operation of nature, assisted by proper medicine.

The treatment will be governed much by a consideration of the treatment of many of the preceding diseases. In many cases the practitioner will find it necessary to make use of the antilogistic course of treatment, whereas in others, the reverse, or support the constitution by the exhibition of tonics, cordials, and stimulents. One prominent principle in the constitutional treatment, is the administration of such remedies, as will alter the state of the circulating fluids, or counteract that morbid action which exists in the whole system. To fulfil this indication, the bowels should occasionally be evacuated, and the scrofulous and alterative syrup freely taken. Diet should be light, nourishing, and easy of digestion.

The local treatment will be similar to sinus ulcers. The hip should be steamed over a decoction of bitter herbs occasionally, and poulticed; one of the best poultices will be that made of the pulverized bayberry bark; though most of the poultices recommended in this work may be used. A decoction of the bayberry, should be syringed into the ulcers, once or twice a day, also a solution of the vegetable caustic, mineral caustic, yellow and black wash, &c. A tent should be kept in, to prevent the external orifice from closing. Apply the discutient, green, bittersweet, and white ointment, about the parts, hip, and thigh, dress with the black salve. The treatment should be varied according to circumstances, it often produces too much fatigue, to probe and syringe the ulcers of young children, hence it will be avoided, and more dependence put on constitutional remedies. If the leg

should swell much, or there is an effusion of water in the cellular membrane, apply a bandage.

We would further observe, that previous to suppuration, or ulceration, where there are symptoms of the disease, the most prompt measures should be taken to suppress a further developement, by fomenting the hip, steaming the parts over bitter herbs, poulticing and applying the stimulating liquid, and all the different kinds of ointment, recommended in similar cases.

FRACTURES.

Fractures have been divided into different *species*—according to the extent of the injury, and the particular direction in which the fibres of the bone happen to yield. Thus, we have a simple, compound and complicated fracture; and again, a transverse, oblique, comminutive, and longitudinal fracture. By the term *simple* fracture, is understood a mere separation of bony fibres, unattended by severe contusion or external wound. From this a *compound* fracture differs, in being conjoined with an external wound, or with a protruded bone. A *complicated* fracture implies that the bone is broken at more than one place, or is combined with luxation, with laceration of one or more large vessels, or rupture of ligaments, tendons, &c., or with a gun-shot wound. A fracture is said to be *transverse*, when its direction is perpendicular to the axis of the bone. It is denominated *oblique*, when it deviates from the perpendicular direction. In *comminutive* fracture, the bone is broken into several pieces or crushed into fragments. A *longitudinal* fracture runs parallel with the axis of the bone.

The *signs* of fracture are not always very decisive. In general, however, *crepitation*, or that particular noise or sensation, produced by rubbing together the fragments of a broken bone, is more to be relied on than any other, and is an almost certain indication of fracture. Added to this, there is usually more or less deformity, pain swelling, inability to use or move the limb. But these symptoms may attend luxation and other diseases, and are

therefore, not unequivocal proofs of fracture. Besides, it is possible for a patient actually to labor under a fracture of one or more bones, and yet, from interlocking of the fragments, or from a sound bone serving as a splint and supporting the broken one, no distortion will be perceived. Many instances are related of patients walking about, under these circumstances, for some time after the accident.

TREATMENT.

The general indication in the treatment of fractures are, to prevent or subdue inflammation, and coaptate and retain the fragments in contact by appropriate means, until they are restored to their pristine condition, through the medium of rollers. The former are best accomplished by the antiphlogistic system, position, and the application of warm fomentation, stimulating liquid and steam—the latter by extension, counter-extension, splints, bandages and other apparatus. By *extension* is understood a force applied to the lower fragment, sufficient to remove it from the superior fragment; by *counter-extension* a power calculated to resist the operations of extension. This should be made gently and gradually. After the derangement has been properly regulated, the limb should be neatly encircled with a bandage, then as many suitable splints applied, as circumstances may require, these to be fastened with a bandage.

In fractures of the femur, or thigh bone, the patient is put to much useless inconvenience by the common mode of treatment. We usually apply an apparatus by which the patient is made very comfortable even in the first stages of his complaint. This consists of two splints, the one carved so as to fit the thigh, the other the leg, these are to be fastened by a hinge at the knee, so that the leg can be bent at any angle, the angle is secured by means of a brace extending from one splint to the other. When this is properly applied, and the thigh sufficiently secured in it, the patient is enabled to place his leg in almost any position, without the least inconvenience. In compound fractures, or other species, when the integuments are lacerated, the lacerated parts should be so

exposed, so as to be dressed daily, without removing that, which is necessary to keep the limb in its proper place. If much inflammation should take place, poultice, foment, and apply the stimulating liquid.

PHARMACY,

OR

RECIPES.

LIQUIDS.

Anti-Pyrosis Liquid.

Take of elixer salutas half a drachm, tincture balsam tolué one ounce—mix. This is used for water brash, or pyrosis. Dose, tablespoon full, at night.

RHEUMATIC LIQUID.

Take of white turpentine four ounces, inspissated juice of poke berries (called gargot) four ounces, wine three gallons—digest for two days—filter and bottle. Used for chronic rheumatism. Dose, half a wine glass, three times a day.

MARSHAL'S PILE LIQUID.

Take of spearmint, bruised, any quantity, or enough to saturate a given quantity of alcohol—digest for several days. Applied externally for piles, internally for gravel, stranguary, or any suppression of urine. Dose, a tablespoon full.

STIMULATING LIQUID.

Take of Cayenne pepper two ounces, alcohol two quarts—digest for four days. Used externally for palsy, rheumatism, sprains, swellings, injuries, cholic, cholera morbus, spasms, and pains about the breast.

TINCTURES.

Tinctures are prepared by digesting different substances in spirits, reduced to a coarse powder, at a tem

perature not exceeding 90 degrees. They are to be kept macerating in close vessels for several days, and during this time to be frequently agitated. They then should be filtered and kept in close stopped bottles.

HYDRAGOGUE TINCTURE.

Take of bark of the white elder one pound, spirits one gallon—infuse four hours—filter and bottle. Dose, a wineglass full three or four times a day. Used in dropsy.

BOTANICAL TINCTURE.

Take of nitre one ounce, gum guaiacum one ounce, antimony half an ounce, balsam tolué two ounces, camphor two drachms, spirits two quarts—digest for three days, and filter. Dose, from one to six teaspoons full. Used in dropsy.

TINCTURE OF LOBELIA.

Take of pulverized lobelia two ounces, proof spirits two quarts—digest ten days. Dose, from one to six teaspoons full. Used in asthma, convulsions, hysteria, coughs, cramps, and in almost any case where an emetic is indicated.

TINCTURE OF HOPS.

Take of the pollen or the flower that is on the blow of the common hops, sufficient quantity to saturate two pints of alcohol—digest ten days, and filter. Dose, one or two teaspoons full in milk, every hour. Used as an anodyne in many cases, where preparations of opium disagree with the stomach, for pains and to produce sleep.

TINCTURE OF BALSAM TOLUÉ.

Take of balsam tolué one ounce, alcohol one pint—digest until all is dissolved.

TINCTURE MYRRH.

Take of gum myrrh three ounces, alcohol one pint—

digest for eight days. Equal parts of this and the following is given for obstructed menstruation, in doses of a teaspoon full three or four times a day.

TINCTURE CASTOR.

Take of castor two ounces, alcohol one quart—digest for ten days, and filter.

TINCTURE CANTHARIDES.

Take of Spanish flies, powdered, three drachms, alcohol two pints—digest for ten days, and filter. Dose, from fifteen to twenty drops, in sugar or water.

VEGETABLE TINCTURE, OR ELIXIR SALUTAS.

Take of senna, powdered, two ounces, jallap one ounce, fennel seeds, bruised, half an ounce, diluted alcohol two quarts—digest eight days. Dose, one tablespoon full.

TINCTURE OF OPIUM—LAUDANUM.

Take of opium, in powder, two ounces, diluted alcohol one quart—digest for ten days, and filter. Dose, from fifteen to forty drops, for an adult.

CAMPHORATED TINCTURE OF OPIUM, OR PAREGORIC.

Take of opium, benzoic acid, each, one drachm, camphor two scruples, aniseed powdered, two drachms, diluted alcohol two pints—digest for ten days, and filter. Dose, from five drops to twenty, for children; to adults, from twenty to a hundred drops.

TINCTURE OF STRAMONIUM—STINK WEED.

Take of the seeds of the stink weed, powdered, two ounces, alcohol one quart—digest ten days, and filter. Dose, from fifteen to twenty drops, for adults. Used for pains in the stomach, fits, and headache.

EXPECTORANT TINCTURE.

Take of lobelia seeds bruised, half an ounce, wine,

or metheglin, one quart—digest ten days, and filter. Dose, from a tablespoon full to half a wineglass full, three or four times a day. Give in coughs.

TINCTURE ICTODES FÆTIDUS.

Take of the root of the skunk cabbage, bruised, three ounces, spirits one quart—digest, and filter. Dose, from a teaspoon full to a tablespoon full. Used in nervous diseases. It is a powerful anti-spasmodic; it is exhibited with benefit in asthma, hysteria, and spasms.

GOLDEN TINCTURE.

Take of prickly ash bark in powder, black hellebore root bruised, of each, four ounces; alcohol three quarts—digest, and filter. Dose, from a tablespoon full to a wineglass full, three or four times a day.

COHUSH TINCTURE.

Take of black cohush root, bruised, three quarts, spirits one quart—digest six days, and filter. Dose, from a tablespoon full to a wineglass full, three or four times a day.

TINCTURE DIGITALIS.

Take of fox glove, powdered, two ounces, proof spirits one quart—digest ten days, and filter. Dose, from fifteen to twenty drops, three or four times a day.

SUDORIFIC TINCTURE, OR RED DROPS.

Take of ipecacuanha, in powder, saffron, camphor, Virginia snake root, opium, of each, two ounces; gin, or brandy, three quarts—digest for ten days, and filter. Dose, a teaspoon full, to an adult, according to symptoms, sometimes as often as once in half an hour. It will be seen by the foregoing pages that this preparation is much used in practice. It is admirably calculated to relieve many diseases, in combination with warm diluents, depending on an obstructed perspiration, by its powerful sudorific effects. In derangement of the functions of the stomach, arising from the too free

use of cold water in warm weather, rheumatism, coughs, cholic, cramps, and pains in the stomach, it is exhibited with great benefit. It produces nausea and vomiting with some.

WINE TINCTURE, OR BITTERS.

Take of peruvian bark, two ounces—wild cherry tree bark, in powder, one ounce—cinnamon, cloves, nutmegs, of each bruised one drachm—sulphur, one ounce—wine, two quarts. Digest several days—dose, wine glass—used for intermittents and remittents, and other diseases where there is need of tonics.

PILLS.

Pills are made of substances, reduced to powder, and formed into a soft mass by mixing them with syrup, mucilage, conserve, or soft extract.

NERVOUS PILL.

Take of assafœtida, opium, of each in powder, equal parts, one ounce, dissolved in an earthen vessel over a fire, add one ounce volatile ammonia. Form a mass, divide into pills as large as peas—dose, one or two—used for hysteria.

CICUTA PILLS.

Take of pulverized cicuta leaves, twelve grains—turpentine, two scruples—form a mass, divide into twelve pills—dose from one to three, twice a day—used in cancers, and painful ulcers.

HYDRAGOGUE PILLS:

Take of jalap, gamboge, and scammony, in powder, of each, one scruple—form a mass with mucilage of gum arabic, and divide into sixteen pills—dose one or two hourly, until they operate freely. Used for dropsy.

STIMULATING OR CAPSICUM PILL.

Take of capsicum (cayenne pepper) one ounce, in

powder—form a mass with mucilage of gum arabic—divide into pills—dose from one to three.

BILIOUS PILLS.

Take of socotrine aloes, in powder, castile soap, and rheubarb, of each one drachm—form a mass—divide into pills—dose, from two to three.

DYSPEPTIC PILLS.

Take of white oxid bismuth, socotrine aloes, extract of gentian, of each, four ounces—castile soap, colocynth, gamboge, of each, two ounces—oil of cloves, two drachms, all should be finely powdered and ground together—form a mass with mucilage gum arabic—divide into pills of common size—dose, two night and morning; more if they should not operate. This is a pill of great efficacy in many complaints.

DYSPEPTIC PILL:

Disapproved of.

Take of ammoniated iron, one drachm—extract of gentian, half a drachm—form a mass with the mucilage of gum arabic—divide into pills—dose, from one to three night and morning.

COUGH PILLS.

Take of horehound, in powder, two ounces—lobelia, capsicum, thoroughwort, skunk cabbage, bayberry bark, valerian, mandrake, of each in fine powder, one ounce—opium, three grains, blood root, one ounce—form a mass, with honey—divide into pills—dose, from two to three
Used in coughs.

BILIOUS PHYSIC.

Take of jalap in powder, one pound—senna powdered, two pounds—cloves, three ounces—rub them together to a fine powder, and sift—dose. a teaspoon full, in two thirds of a cup full of warm water, sweetened—repeat it

in three hours, if it should not operate--this is a combination that is much used, as a purgative.

THOMPSON'S COMPOSITION POWDER.

Take of bayberry bark in powder, two pounds--the inner bark of the common hemlock, one pound--cloves, two ounces--capsicum, two ounces--ginger, one pound--rub them together to a fine powder--dose a teaspoon full in warm water, sweetened; a very warm stimulating combination.

BLACK, OR EMENAGOGUE POWDER.

Take of sulphur, gum myrrh, steel dust, loaf sugar, of each, four ounces--wine, one quart; put them all into a vessel, and place it over a fire, evaporate to dryness; pulverise--dose, of the powder, one teaspoon full, three times a day, in any convenient vehicle. Used for suppressed menstruations.

GREEN POWDER.

Take of eupatorium (bone set) leaves, in powder, three ounces--loaf sugar, one ounce; reduce them to a fine powder--dose, a teaspoon full three times a day, in horehound tea. Used for coughs, dyspepsia, and consumptions.

EMETIC POWDERS.

Take of ipecacuanha, lobelia inflata, of each in powder, four ounces--capsicum, two drachms; rub them together to a fine powder, sometimes the capsicum is omitted--dose, a teaspoon full to an adult, repeated once in twenty minutes or half an hour, until vomiting is produced; it may be given in much larger doses, no bad consequences will follow, as it will generally be vomited up in a short time, without producing that disagreeable nausea, which succeeds small doses.

Previous to the exhibition of this, the patient should drink about two thirds of a cup full of eupatorium (bone set or thoroughwort) tea. The powder then should be taken in warm water, sweetened, if the patient chooses;

drink freely of the eupatorium tea, in time of vomiting. Used in all cases where vomits are necessary.

SMITH'S COUGH POWDER.

Take of elecampane root, liquorice, blood root, crows bill, wild turnip, equal parts of each in powder; rub them together into a fine powder—dose, a teaspoon full three times a day in honey. Used for coughs.

FEVER POWDERS.

This is simply the amaranthus in powder. Make an infusion by adding a spoon full to a half pint of boiling water. Much used in fever, to produce moisture of the skin.

SMITH'S COLIC POWDERS.

Take of Arelepius Tuberosa in powder two table spoonfulls, Cognacem one table spoonfull, to this add half pint water. Dose the whole. Used in colic.

STIPTIC POWDER.

Take of Copperas any quantity, hold it in a flame until it becomes red or oxidized, pulverize, apply externally for hemorrhage.

CEPHALIC POWDER.

Take of Blood root in powder, Bayberry bark of each equal parts, rub together. Used for catarrh and Polypus. The sub-muriate of mercury may sometimes be added in polypus.

PLASTER.

Plasters are adhesive, solid, compound substances, spread upon leather, linen, or silk. The consistence of which should be such as that they do not adhere to the hand when cold, but should be easily spread when heated, and should remain soft and tenacious when they are spread.

FERRIS CANCER OR BLACK PLASTER.

To any quantity of White oak bark add a sufficient quantity of urine, macerate three days, boil and strain, evaporate the liquid until the mass has acquired the consistency of tar. About the end of the operation add a quantity of equal parts of honey and white turpentine, sufficient to make it tenacious. To every ounce of this add two drachms of white vitriol.

This has been a very celebrated plaster in the cure of Cancers and schirrhous tumours, applied, it acts as an escharotic and gives pain, it should not be kept on too long, poultice should be applied afterwards.

CICUTA PLASTER.

This may be made either by adding the powdered leaves of the hemlock to white rosin, or equal parts of the extract and white rosin mixed. Used for pains.

STRENGTHNING PLASTER.

Take of purified hemlock gum, any quantity.

SEARCLOTH PLASTER.

Take of rosin two pounds, beeswax half a pound, capsicum half a pound, camphor in powder quarter of a pound, oil of sassafras half an ounce. Digest the capsicum in spirits, evaporate the liquid, add the rosin and beeswax, melt, when nearly cold add the camphor and oil. This plaster is somewhat stimulating and found of great use in sprains, chronic inflammations, pain in the back, side, stomach and limbs.

ANTI-RHEUMATIC PLASTER.

Take of tobacco leaves two pounds, urine one gallon, boil them together over a gentle fire, strain, evaporate to a proper consistency, add white rosin sufficient to make it tenacious. Used for rheumatism.

BLISTERING PLASTER.

Take of mutton suet, yellow wax, white rosin, cantharides (Spanish flies) each equal weights, mix the can-

tharides reduced to a fine powder, with the other ingredients, previously melted and removed from the fire. This formula is well suited to answer the intention in view, that of exciting blistering, for it is of a proper consistence, and sufficient degree of tenacity, which are here the only requisites.

ADHESIVE PLASTER.

Take of black salve and white rosin equal parts, melt them together, and make a plaster. This plaster is chiefly used as an adhesive for keeping on other dressings, for retaining the edges of recent wounds together, &c.

ASTRINGENT PLASTER.

Take of the extract of white oak bark any quantity. This is applied in cases of ruptures and hernias.

PELEG WHITE'S CELEBRATED PLASTER.

Take white rosin three pounds, mutton tallow, beeswax, Burgundy pitch, of each four ounces, British oil, cedar oil, camphor, of each a tablespoon full, W. I. rum one gill. To the four first articles melted, add the oils, camphor and rum, stir the whole carefully together, so as to form a plaster, pour it into cold water at different times, work it as wax, form into rolls three inches long. This plaster is applied with great benefit in almost all cases where strengthening plasters are recommended. It has obtained a high reputation within the sphere of its author. It is somewhat stimulating and excites considerable irritation, but should not be taken off.

SALVES.

BLACK OR HEALING SALVE.

Take of olive oil three quarts, rosin three ounces, beeswax three ounces, red lead pulverized two and a half pounds, camphor half an ounce. To the oil, rosin and beeswax previously melted, add the lead by degrees, carefully stirring the whole over a fire of charcoal for a long

time, or until of a dark color, then remove, continue the stirring until cool, add the camphor. Great use is made of this salve in ulcers, swellings, wounds, burns, scalds, scrofula, &c.

GREEN SALVE.

Take of white rosin and bayberry tallow of each equal parts, melt them together. If too hard add sweet oil.

WARD'S CELEBRATED SALVE, OR PASTE FOR FISTULA AND PILES.

Take of black pepper, elecampane root in powder, of each four ounces, fennel seeds twenty two ounces, honey and sugar of each a pound. Melt them together and stir until cool. About a drachm may be applied to the rectum three times a day for pile tumors.

OINTMENTS.

Ointments have generally a degree of consistence like that of butter. They are prepared from lard or oil, rendered of the consistence of butter, by the addition of suet wax or spermaceti, so as to suspend the dry powders and more ponderous articles, with which they are frequently incorporated. As they are to be applied to the skin they should be soft or fluid at the temperature of the body. When ointments are prepared from vegetables we have found it best, after they are bruised, to let them macerate in a sufficient quantity of spirits for several days. By this, qualities are obtained from many vegetables which cannot be by lard or oils.

WHITE OINTMENT.

Take of lard four pounds, Venice turpentine half a pound, borax two ounces, muriate of mercury in fine powder two drachms. To the two former melted together add the latter, diligently stirring until cool. It will be seen by reading the former pages that this ointment is used in many cases in surgery. It is of great use.

TURPENTINE OINTMENT.

Take of lard four pounds, Venus turpentine half a pound—melt together and form an ointment.

SCROFULOUS OINTMENT.

To one part, of equal parts of the extract of bitter-sweet bark, and yellow dock root, add one part of hog's lard, then add Venus turpentine, one pound to every ten—melt all together. Used for Scrofula.

GREEN OINTMENT.

Take of tansy, wormwood, horehound, catnip, and hops, of each equal quantities bruised macerate in spirits several days, add a sufficient quantity of hog's lard, simmer over a fire, until the leaves are crisp and dry, strain through a linen cloth, then add when nearly cold, one pound of Venus turpentine to every ten.

DISCUTIENT OINTMENT.

Take of yellow dock root, stramonium leaves, cicuta leaves, deadly night-shade, bruised, of each equal parts. This is to be prepared in the same way as the above, in hogs lard or fresh butter, without any addition of Venus turpentine.

The value of this ointment cannot be duly appreciated, until long used. We have seen its admirable effects in a great variety of ulcers, painful swellings, scrofula tumors, sprains, &c.

YELLOW OINTMENT.

Take of lard, and white ointment, of each one pound, sulphur four ounces. Add the sulphur to the two former softened—Used for the piles, introduced far up the rectum.

TETTER OINTMENT.

Take of turpentine and fresh butter, of each half a pound, yellow wax, white lilly root, plantain, each two ounces, sweet oil, Indian turnip, each one ounce, yellow ochre two drachms—this to be made on the same principle of the preceding. Used for the salt rheum, &c.

JUDKINS' PATENT SPECIFIC OINTMENT.

Take of linseed oil one gallon, Red lead two pounds, spirits of turpentine two ounces, mutton-tallow one oz. rosin two ounces, buds of the balm of Gilead two or three hands full, grey powder of mercury one tea spoon full. Boil the oil two or three hours, in an iron kettle gently stirred, add the lead by small quantities, next the turpentine, then the powders; after taken from the fire, add the tallow, resin, and buds—stir until cool.

This recipe was obtained from the author, he recommends it for almost every disease; we shall not take the trouble to enumerate them, but refer the patient to his advertisements.

CATAPLASMS OR POULTICES.

By cataplasms, are in general understood, those external applications which are brought to a due consistence or form for being properly applied, by water or watery fluids.

SLIPPERY ELM POULTICE.

This is made by adding to equal parts of warm milk and water, pulverized slippery elm bark, with a small quantity of Indian meal, until a mass of proper consistence is formed. It should be long stirred and exposed to a gentle heat.

As a common poultice, this is far superior to the bread and milk, which will be obvious when used, especially in cases of ulcers and wounds where emollients are indicated.

ALKALINE POULTICE.

This is made as the above, with the exception that weak ley is used instead of milk and water.

This poultice may be applied with great benefit in white swelling, cynanche tonsillaris, scrofulous ulcers, and tumours, broken breasts, &c.

WILD INDIGO POULTICE

This is made by forming a mass of proper consistence, by the addition of pulverized slippery elm bark, to a sufficient quantity of the decoction of wild indigo weed root, or the weed and root bruised, may be simmered in milk, to which the elm may be added, and sometimes a little meal. This poultice is a very efficacious application, to indolent and unhealthy phagedenic and gangrenous ulcers. As an external application, the antiseptic qualities of the wild indigo ought to be more generally known. A liniment prepared by simmering the cortical part of the root in cream, has proved eminently beneficial when applied to sore nipples and ulcerated breasts. Botanical name, *sophora tinctoria*.

YEAST POULTICE.

Take of milk, one pint; yeast, one gill; mix: expose to a gentle heat, form a mass by the addition of slippery elm bark, in powder. This cataplasm is considered as a very efficacious application to putrid or putrescent ulcers, or tumours, gangrene, and mortification.

WILD TURNIP POULTICE.

Wild turnip in powder, with a small addition of elm or meal, sufficient to form a mass, in milk and water, of any quantity required. Used for scrofula.

WHITE LILLY POULTICE.

Simmer the bruised root in milk and water, or milk alone, to this add elm or meal.

CARROT POULTICE.

Scraped carrots are to be simmered in a decoction of the spikenard, form a mass by the addition of the bark.

BAYBERRY POULTICE.

This is made with the pulverized bark of the root of bayberry, simmered in milk, or heat moderately applied to it, with sometimes the addition of a little elm bark or indian meal.

Perhaps of all the poultices we make use of in scrofulous complaints, those prepared from this bark are the most useful. Its effects are decidedly beneficial, and should be known to every practitioner.

DECOCTIONS.

Decoctions are the aqueous solution of vegetable matter obtained by boiling. They differ from infusions only in the application of a longer continued heat. At the same time, however, that the increase of temperature, facilitates and expedites the solution of some fixed principles, it gives others a tendency to decomposition, and dissipates all volatile matters. Therefore decoctions made from vegetables containing large quantities of volatile principles, are weaker than infusion. In preparing decoctions, they should be boiled no longer, than is sufficient to dissolve the active principles of the vegetables, and should be strained while hot, as during the process of cooling, these principles are apt to be precipitated.

DIURETIC DECOCTION.

Take of the root of the queen of the meadow, milkweed, bark of the root of white elder, juniper berries, spearmint, wild carrot seeds, horseradish in powder, of each, equal parts; cider in proportion to the quantity of water—boil with a gentle heat, and strain. Dose, as much as the stomach will bear. This is found of eminent service in dropsy, provokes a free discharge of urine, and often cures the patient without any other medicine.

RHEUMATIC DECOCTION.

Take of Virginia snake root one part, white pine bark two parts, burdock seeds two parts, prickly ash bark two parts—make a strong decoction with water, strain. Dose, from a wineglass to half a pint, or as much as the patient can bear. Its name indicates its use. To promote free perspiration it should be exhibited warm.

DIAPHORETIC DECOCTION.

Take of pleurisy root (*asclepias tuberosa*) in powder one ounce, water one quart—boil and strain. Promote expectoration and perspiration. Used in fevers of all kinds. Dose, a wineglass full, several times a day.

URINARY DECOCTION.

Take marsh mallows three ounces, queen of the meadow root three ounces, water four quarts—boil down to one quart, and strain the decoction; to this add gum Arabic two ounces, nitre half an ounce. Dose, a teacup full, four or five times a day. Eminently useful when exhibited for difficulty in passing the water.

DIGITALIS DECOCTION.

Take of fox glove leaves, in powder, ten grains, water one pint—boil to half a pint, and strain. Dose, two tablespoons full. Diuretic.

TROCHES FOR PILES.

Take of aloes, gum Arabic, Castile soap, sugar of lead, copperas, and vegetable caustic, in powder, of each, half an ounce; molasses three pints—simmer over a gentle fire, carefully stirring until of a proper consistence to form into roles of the size and shape of an acorn. These are to be introduced up the rectum or bowel, two or three a day, where they will slowly dissolve, in cases of piles where there are tumors. They are a remedy of great importance in this troublesome disease. They should be kept in close stopped bottles, or they will deliquesce and spoil.

EXTRACTS.

Extracts are prepared either from the expressed juice or decoction of vegetables, by evaporation. They generally should be of the consistence of honey.

EXTRACT OF BLOOD ROOT.

Take of blood root one pound, water one gallon—boil down to two quarts, and strain while hot. Evaporate the decoction immediately to the consistence of thick honey, carefully stirring towards the last. It should be kept in stopped bottles.

In the same way prepare the extract of gentian. To form a plaster of an extract, there should be white resin added sufficient to make it tenacious.

DROPS.

COUGH DROPS.

Take of oil of anise, oil of almonds, balsam fir, tincture balsam tolué, of each, half a drachm; alcohol one ounce—mix. To this a little laudanum may be added with benefit. Dose, from fifteen to twenty drops. Used in coughs.

DIURETIC DROPS.

Take of sweet spirits of nitre, oil of almonds, of each, two ounces; balsam capivi, spirits turpentine, of each, one ounce; camphor thirty grains—mix. Dose, a small teaspoon full in the mucilage of gum Arabic, three or four times a day, previously well shook together. Used for gonorrhœa, venereal disease, scalding of urine, &c.

BLACK DROPS.

Take of opium half a pound, purified vinegar three pints, nutmeg bruised, one ounce and a half, saffron half an ounce—boil them to a proper consistence, then add, sugar four ounces, yeast one fluid ounce—digest for seven weeks, then place in the open air until it becomes a syrup: lastly, decant, filter, and bottle it up, adding a little sugar to each bottle. This is an anodyne preparation, which has been long known and esteemed, as being more powerful in its operation, and

less distressing in its effects, than any tincture of opium. One drop of this preparation is considered equal to about three of laudanum. Dose, from five to fifteen drops, according to circumstances.

TAR DROPS.

Take oil of tar any quantity. Dose, four or six drops, three or four times a day. For cramp or pains in the stomach, &c.

WHITEWELL'S DROPS.

Take of alkanate root two drachms, camphor one drachm, oil of origanum six drachms, spirits turpentine half an ounce, alcohol one pint—mix. Dose, 25 drops in wine or water, several times a day. Used externally and internally for rheumatism, pains and cramps in the stomach, earache, toothache, palsy, &c.

MUCILAGE.

MUCILAGE OF GUM ARABIC.

Take of gum Arabic, in powder, one part, boiling water two parts—digest, with frequent agitation, until the gum is dissolved, then pass the mucilage through a linen. The use of this mucilage depends upon its rendering expressed and essential oils, balsams, resins, gum resins, resinous tinctures, and fatty bodies miscible with water, and to assist in forming a mass for pills tenaceous.

MUCILAGE OF SLIPPERY ELM BARK.

Take of slippery elm bark, in powder, two ounces, boiling water one pint—macerate them with a gentle heat, until a mucilage is formed. A mucilage thus formed is successfully employed as a glyster, in bowel complaints, and a very important application to the eyes in ophthalmia. It may be taken internally for coughs, dysentery, diarrhœa, and poison.

CAUSTICS, OR ESCHAROTICS.

These are substances which possess the power of destroying the texture, of the various solid parts of the animal body to which they are applied. Yet they are often employed in form of a weak solution, to excite a healthy action in indolent ulcers, fistulas, sinous cancers, and cutaneous eruptions, without any specific escharotic effect. We also make use of them in preparing some ointments and eye waters. Many practitioners exhibit them in great abundance internally, but we seem more in favor of milder remedies for the removal of disease, and as yet, remain skeptics with regard to the propriety, of too generally, exhibiting deleterious articles, on the principle of creating a morbid action in the system, sufficient to overpower that which then exists.

VEGETABLE CAUSTIC.

This is prepared by evaporating a strong ley of hickory ashes until it becomes of a consistence of powder. This may be applied to act as an escharotic without exciting but a very little inflammation—in many cases it has a preference to any other on that account. Great use is made of this in scrofulous ulcers and fistulas, both in form of powder and solution, and with a syringe, if necessity require.

MINERAL CAUSTIC.

Take of borax one ounce, muriate of mercury half an ounce, vermillion twenty grains—rub well together. This preparation, it will be seen, is considerably used externally, by reading on the practice of surgery. It is one of the principal remedies (though the muriate is often applied alone) made use of in exciting a preternatural discharge and removing the callus in fistula, which is the great secrecy of cure, without an operation. Muriate of mercury is one of the most violent poisons with which we are acquainted—hence the necessity of being extremely careful in its application. Often when applied in the small quantity of one or two grains, it causes violent inflammation and pain to follow.

MILD MINERAL CAUSTIC.

Take of sub. muriate of mercury (calomel) one ounce, vermilion twenty grains—rub together. Used for venereal ulcers.

The extracts of blood root, poke, and Indian turnip, are sometimes used as escharotics.

GARGLES.

STIMULATING GARGLE,

To one pint of a strong decoction of sumach berries add one drachm of alum. Used for diseases of the throat.

COOLING GARGLE.

To one pint of a strong decoction of sage and hyssop sweetened with honey add one drachm of borax. Dose, a wine glass every half hour. Used as a gargle in diseases of the throat.

ASTRINGENT GARGLE.

Simply a strong decoction of cohush.

FOMENTATIONS.

COMMON FOMENTATION.

Take of hops, tansey, wormwood horchound and catnip, equal parts, boil them in water, sometimes add a little soap. The steam of this constitutes what we term the "vapor bath." Sometimes add a little peppermint, it is then more grateful. In fomenting, the boiled herbs may be applied directly to the part or between cloths, and remove as soon as cold, and apply warm.

POPPY FOMENTATION.

Take of poppy any quantity, simmer in equal parts

of vinegar and water. Used for ophthalmia, ague in the face, &c.

STIMULATING FOMENTATION.

Take of Cayenne pepper two ounces, bruised mustard seed two ounces, alcohol or common spirits two quarts, mix, digest a week. Used in palsy, bruises, rheumatism, broken bones, pains, &c.

MINT FOMENTATION.

Spearmint bruised and simmered in brandy. Used for sickness at the stomach and pain in the bowels.



INJECTIONS.

COMMON INJECTION.

Take of milk one pint, mucilage of slippery elm bark one pint, (if the elm can be obtained,) olive oil one gill, molasses half a pint, saleratus one drachm, mix. Often the saleratus and mucilage will be omitted, but should never be in cases of dysentery and diarrhoea. Laudanum will sometimes be added in proportion of a teaspoon full. It is often necessary to repeat injections, and give them in large quantities, to expect any benefit from them. To prevent their too quick return, cloths should be applied to the parts.

SOAP INJECTION.

This is simply strong soapsuds.

STIMULATING INJECTION.

Take of Lobelia one part, common hemlock one part, make a decoction, add a teaspoon full of capsicum to the pint.

TOBACCO INJECTION.

Simply a decoction of tobacco leaves, given in small quantities, to expel worms from the rectum,

TOBACCO SMOKE INJECTION.

This is made by forcing tobacco smoke into a bladder, by covering the bowl of a pipe with a cloth, and blowing with the mouth after the stem of the pipe is introduced into the bladder. After the bladder is filled, force it up the rectum. Used for colic.

RESTORATIVE CORDIAL.

Take of cumfrey root, white Solomon's seal and spike-nard, of each one ounce, columbo, gentian root, and chamomile flowers, of each half an ounce, wine two quarts. Dose, half a wine glass three times a day. Given in cases of debility and loss of appetite.

 PHYSIC.

NEUTRALIZING PHYSIC.

Take of peppermint half a pound, rhubarb nine ounces, saleratus four ounces, loaf sugar four pounds, water one gallon. Mix, boil and evaporate a little, then add one pint of brandy. Dose, a teaspoon full once in two hours, for children two years old. This is a valuable remedy for dysentery, diarrhoea and cholera morbus. The bark of wild cherry tree and cinnamon may be added with good effect.

BILIOUS COLIC PHYSIC. (HULL'S.)

Take of aloes one ounce, gum myrrh half an ounce, cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg and ginger equal parts, two drachms, jallop half an ounce, sometimes a little nitre, capsicum or sunflower seed, gin one quart. Dose, half a wineglass every hour until relieved. This has been very celebrated in the cure of colics.

BILIOUS PHYSIC.

See anti-bilious-powder.

WHITE LIQUID PHYSIC.

This is made by saturating warm water with equal parts of epsom and glauber salts, (as much as the water

will dissolve,) then add two tablespoons full of nitric acid, or enough to make it as sour as lemon juice, to the gallon, or instead of the nitric acid, the same quantity of sulphuric acid, and two ounces of nitre may be added when the water is warm. Dose, from one to two tablespoons full, to adults, once in two hours, until it operates as physic. Keep it from the teeth, drink cold water after it. This is given in all kind of bowel and liver complaints with good effect. The extract of mandrake is a very good physic, made into pills, if it gripe much combine it with some aromatic.

SYRUPS.

ALTERATIVE SYRUP

Take of sassaparilla six pounds, sassafras two pounds, guac shavings three pounds, burdock root or seeds two pounds. Sometimes one pound of senna is added, also burdock root or seeds two pounds, elder flowers 2 pounds. Sometimes one pound of senna is added, also burdock root and seeds left out. These are all to be put into a large kettle and boiled in water, and drained off and boiled again, and again, until all the strength is out, then the decoction should be carefully strained through woollen and evaporated to about twenty-six porter bottles, clarify with eggs, then add one pound of sugar, boil, skim, and clarify again, then bottle and cork tight. Sometimes a little spirits is added to keep it from hurting. This syrup is given in a great many kinds of diseases. The reader must be referred to the foregoing pages. Often two grains of the muriate of mercury is added to this, especially in venereal and liver complaints.

VEGETABLE SYRUP.

Take of liverwort, solomon seal, skunk cabbage root, of each 1 pound—blood root, and water horehound, of each half a pound; boil and prepare as the preceding—dose, from half to a wine glass full, three times a day, to adults. Used for vomiting and spitting of blood, and coughs.

SCROFULOUS SYRUP.

Take of yellow dock root, and bitter sweet, of each two pounds ; boil the strength all out with water, strain, clarify, and add 10lb. of sugar, then evaporate to twelve porter bottles—dose, a wine glass full three times a day. Used for scrofula.

ANTISPASMODIC SYRUP.

Take of garden piony root, one pound—peruvian bark, and snake root, one quarter of a pound—sugar, four pound—water, four quarts ; boil, strain, and evaporate to two or three quarts—dose, half a wine glass full. Used for fits in children, and epilepsy.

EXPECTORANT SYRUP.

Take of a strong decoction of iceland moss, and liquor ice stick, equal parts, evaporate, to which add rock candy. This forms a valuable syrup for coughs, and colds.

**BALSAMS.****PULMONARY BALSAM.**

Take of spikenard, elecampane, and cumfrey root, and horehound tops ; add sufficient water to get the strength all out, boil, then strain, clarify : add four pounds of honey, and four pounds of sugar, and evaporate to sixteen bottles, add a little brandy sometimes—dose, a wine glass full, three or four times a day.

BALSAM OF HONEY.

Take of balsam of tolu, balsam fir, of each two ounces ; opium, two drachms—alcohol, one quart, mix, and digest some time—dose, from ten to twenty drops. Used for coughs, and diseases of the lungs.

SMITH'S PULMONARY BALSAM.

Take of lobelia, four oz. ; spikenard, two lb. ; bone-

set, one lb.; sassaparilla, one lb.; pleurisy root, two lb.; colts foot, one lb.; snake root, one and a half lb.; sugar, ten lb.; rum, four gal.; ginseng, one lb.; poplar bark, half a pound. Let them digest in the rum for eight days, then pour off the liquor, and add water—boil all the strength out, strain, then add the sugar and evaporate until a syrup is formed, then a quantity of the mucilage of slippery elm is to be added—dose, from a table spoon full to a wine glass full, three times a day.

WASHES.

OPHTHALMIA WASH, OR WATER.

Take of pulverized borax, one ounce; rain water, one quart: mix. This is used for the eye principally.

YELLOW WASH.

Take of lime water, one pint—mineral caustic, one drachm: mix. Used for ulcers, sores, fistulas, &c.

MINERAL WASH.

Muriate of mercury, one drachm; borax, one ounce: rain water, one quart. Mix.

SAL AMMONIAC WASH.

Take of sal ammoniac, one oz.; spirits, water, and vinegar, equal parts, one pint. Used for erysipelas, and inflammation.

BLACK WASH.

Take of lime water, eight ounces—sub-muriate of mercury, (calomel) one drachm—mix. This is applied to ulcers, particularly the venereal.

ASTRINGENT WASH.

Take of hemlock, sumac, witch hazel, and white oak bark, equal parts of each, with water, make a strong decoction, to this add a little alum. Used for flooding, and for ulcers when there is too great a discharge.

EYE WATER.**MINERAL EYE WATER.**

Take of the muriate of mercury, half a drachm, spirits one pint.

SPIRITOUS EYE WATER.

Take of brandy, half a pint, camphor, half an ounce, water, half a pint—mix.

STIMULATING EYE WATER OR WASH.

Take of white vitriol, sugar of lead, and gum myrrh, of each one ounce, water, one quart; mix: let it stand a week. This is used where there is need of a stimulating application.

COMMON LINIMENT.

Take of castile soap, oil of sassafras, camphor, spirits of hartshorn, and alcohol, of each one ounce, shake well together. Used for sore throat, stiffness of the joints, swelling, pains, &c.

GREEN OIL.

Take of the oil of wormwood, oil of sassafras, oil of cedar, oil of hemlock, oil of turpentine, oil of amber, and sweet oil, of each one ounce, mix them well together. This is an excellent application for rheumatic pains, sore throats, swelling, &c.

RELAXING OIL.

This is made by simmering together, skunk grease, and angle worms oil,

DR. BONE'S PRACTICE.

DOCTOR BONE, is an aged and very celebrated German practitioner residing in the state of New-Jersey, about twelve or fifteen miles from New-York city. His success in treating certain diseases is almost unparrelleled, practice very extensive, judgment not to be coped with. As with all other physicians, no doubt he can make better use of his own remedies than any other person, by reason of experience and an established confidence. The practice had long been kept a secret, but was obtained in 1830, by paying a large sum of money. It is hoped the public will be benefitted by a knowledge of it.

Receipts for preparing his different kinds of remedies.

BONE'S CELEBRATED BITTER.

Pulverized tamarach bark, six pounds—prickly ash bark, four pounds—wild cherry bark, three pounds—seneca snake root, three pounds—aloes, half a pound; mix well together. To one ounce of the mixture, add about three pints of fluid, consisting two thirds of gin, one third of water, and one gill of molasses; macerate several days—dose, from half to a wine glass full three times a day. This is used in all cases where bitters are necessary.

POULTICE.

This is made of the pulverized bark of the root of the black or pussy willow, mixed up with cold cream, and applied cold in all cases where poultices are necessary. It has a remarkable effect to suppress inflammation, and establish a healthy action in indolent ulcers.

YELLOW SALVE.

Take of wild indigo root (*baptista tinctora*) one bushel, boil the strength all out, strain, and evaporate the decoction to a proper consistancy, to which add ten pounds of fresh butter, half a pound mutton tallow, and three pounds of beeswax, then boil until the water is all out, and strain. This is an excellent application in many cases, ulcers in particular.

NIPPLE SALVE.

Take of yellow salve, two pounds, melt and add one phial of british oil.

HEALING SALVE.

Take one bottle of olive oil, one tablespoon full of litharge, one of red lead, and two of white lead, mix and simmer them together, over a gentle fire.

SALVE FOR PROLAPSUS UTERI.

Common rosin and hogs lard mixed together, equal parts.

GREEN SALVE.

To the yellow salve, add a small quantity of blue vitriol.

BLACK SALVE.

Take of the expressed juice of the poke root, (*phytoleca decandria*) to this add one gill of gun powder, and two gills of lard, simmer over a warm fire until it takes a fire, then immediately smother it.

SEAR CLOTH PLASTER.

Take of common pitch or turpentine, one pound, melt, to this add a small quantity of rosin, mutton tallow, and vinegar, let it simmer a short time, then pour it into water.

STIMULATING WASH.

Take of water six quarts, to this add half a tablespoon full of seneca oil, boil down to one half, then add half a tablespoon full of blue vitriol.

CATHARTIC PILLS. 2

Take of equal parts of aloes, pulverized rhubarb and pezunk or Indian physic, form a mass with some mucilage, and make into pills. Dose, from three to eight.

HYSTERIC PILLS.

To the above add a little gum myrrh and assafætida.

PRACTICE.

QUINSY.

Treatment. Apply the common poultice to the neck.

BILIOUS COLIC.

Treatment. Take a handfull of bilious colic root, add a pint and a half of water, boil down to a teacup full, drink the whole, give injection of the same, with the addition of a teaspoon full of butternut extract.

DROPSY.

Treatment. First, for a short time give a tea of tamarach bark, then give about a half a teaspoon full of the white physic, (eupobia ipecacuanha) this will both puke and purge. If it should not do it freely, increase the dose. The patient must set perfectly still when he takes this medicine, and must not eat or drink any thing until it operates. In difficult cases, and where the constitution will bear it, this should be given every day, for a few days. This will take the water off freely, then commence with the common bitters and cathartic pill, also a tea of tamarach bark.

DYSPEPSIA.

Treatment. In the treatment of this disease, occasionally give a dose of the cathartic pills, then commence with the common bitters. The white physic or

euphobia may be given occasionally. Plasters should be applied to the back and breast.

PILES.

Treatment. Give a decoction of the root of the tag alder internally, externally apply the black salve.

AGUE IN THE FACE.

Treatment. Apply the common poultice, then the black salve, yellow salve, green salve, &c.

RHEUMATISM.

Treatment. In the treatment of rheumatism, give an occasional dose of the white physic. The bitters should be taken freely, evacuate the bowels with the cathartic pills, apply plasters and bathe with brandy.

ASTHMA.

Treatment. Give an infusion of skunk cabbage and apply draughts to the feet.

SCROFULA.

Treatment. In the treatment of scrofulous tumors or ulcers, apply the common poultice, black salve, yellow, green, &c.

SCIATICA

Treatment. Bathe with the oil of tar, apply a poultice of the princes pine.

STONE OR GRAVEL.

Treatment, Give freely of the common bitters.

CRAMP IN THE STOMACH ARISING FROM COLD ATTENDED WITH COSTIVENESS.

Treatment. Give ten or twelve grains of the white physic, (american ipecac,) then an infusion of May weed. Neither eat, drink, or stir after taking the physic until it operates. Apply seneca poultices to the feet.

WIND AND NERVOUS COLIC.

Treatment. Take of the pulverized blazing star, a teaspoon full, in a little molasses and water.

MORTIFICATION.

Treatment. Take of wild cherry tree bark, white pine bark, wild indigo root, and pennyroyal, a sufficient quantity, to this add half a gallon of urine, and half a pound of alum, boil all together and make a strong decoction, with which steam the part affected often. This has been a very celebrated remedy.

CROUP.

Treatment. Give an infusion of skunk cabbage, and apply draughts to the feet.

GONORRHOEA.

Treatment. Give a decoction of the bark of the black willow, also balsam capivi. Wash the parts and inject with the decoction.

HOOPING COUGH.

Treatment. Give an infusion of seneca and hyssop.

WORMS,

Treatment. Give a decoction of the bark of the white poplar prepared in cider. If this should not succeed, give the white physic, pink, black plantain, &c.

CARBUNCLE.

Treatment. Apply the black salve, common poultices, yellow and green salve.

FISTULA.

These should be treated with the black salve.

SUPPRESSED MENSTRUATION.

Treatment. Give freely of a warm decoction of colts foot or rue.

DYSENTERY.

Treatment. Give a decoction of crow foot freely. If this should check it too soon, give a portion of the indian physic. This is made by boiling a large quantity of the root in two quarts of water, evaporate to one pint; dose, one or two tablepoons full.

FLUOR ALBUS,

Treatment. Give an infusion of clarry, (a species of sage) with the bitters, and pills.

CANCERS.

Treatment. Take white oak bark and burn to ashes, from this make a strong ley, which evaporate over a gentle fire to the consistency of tar. Apply a plaster of this to the cancer, then the common poultice, black salve and green salve. This treatment sometimes acts like a charm.

BLEEDING.

If externally, apply pulverized stiptic weed, internally, give a decoction of the same.

ULCERS.

Ulcers are to be treated by the application of the common poultice, yellow, black, and green salve, which generally speedily cure them.

BARBER'S MEDICINE.

The following recipes were copied from the hand writing of the man whose name they bear, and must, as a matter of course, be genuine. These medicines have been strongly urged upon the public as of immense value, and as the *original discoveries* of William Barber. A pamphlet has been circulated extensively, while certain individuals have labored, with a *profitable* zeal, to convince the world that through the agency of these medicines, consumptions were no longer to be regarded as a fatal disease, and cancers were as easily cured as any other malady. A new era was to be hailed in the practice of medicine, in which the retailer of *drugs* would have to close his shop: the faculty seek new employment, and the contracted period of mortal existence should be extended to a period approaching that of the antediluvian world. Vegetable electricity, and its botanical coalitions were the theme of mighty eloquence, a profusion of certificates *proving* the cure of a catalogue of desperate cases, were arranged in bold relief to the wondering eyes of the astonished multitude. Feelings of surprise were elicited that this simple and uneducated son of nature should have originated a *system* of practice *entirely new*, and discovered by his own *sagacity* unaided by the lights of others experience, new or hitherto unknown *virtues* in plants, with a method of compounding them so essentially different from all who had gone before him, that their medicinal effects should approach the miraculous, as they listened to the "thrice told tale" of "feats of valor" in the art of healing. By this modern Esculapius, the necessity of all preparatory study which had hitherto been such a formidable obstacle in the manufacture of a doctor was rendered but a waste of time and mental energy, al-

skill was centred in prescribing a round of *medicine made perfect*. To what extent the Metallic Sulphates were rendered simple and harmless *vegetable* productions, by this wonder-working man, we submit to the judgment of our enlightened readers, with this homely old proverb, that "honesty is the best policy."

1. *His celebrated Electric Ointment.*

Melt one and a half pound of lard, add one gill of alcohol, then mix one tablespoon full of sulphate of zinc, and one do. of pearlash, and add the mixture to the melted lard. And when the effe vescence ceases, add half an ounce of pulverized unicorn root. This preparation will sometimes ease pain, and it will often equalize the arterial action, when applied to the temples, neck, &c. and generally act as an anodyne. But it appears to act most powerfully, when newly made. He usually used it as his first application to patients, to excite their special wonder.

His Black Ointment, or Brown Liniment.

To one pint of codfish oil, add one ounce of oil of tar, half a pint of spirits of turpentine, and from three quarters to one ounce of sulphuric acid, by little parcels and keep it closely stopped. It softens callosities, and hard swellings, and usually excites a glow of heat. And it has been useful in quinsy, &c. as an outward application. A lamp cloth, laid over the part where the ointment has been recently applied, seems to modify its action.

His Yellow Powder—a good cathartic.

Take of beefs gall dried and pulverized, one tablespoon full, and equal parts of aloes, rhubarb, gamboge, jalap, and golden seal, so much as to make half a pint, and of nutmegs, cloves, allspice, cinnamon, and ginger, equal parts, making one pint, pulverized and well mixed. And if myrrh is added, it is supposed to be an improvement. This compound is an excellent aperient medicine, and is probably the best article that he administered to his patients. Taken at evening in doses of 15 to 30 grains, it appeared to act directly on the liver; (while the patient lay at rest,) to purify the blood remove morbid matter from the system, and frequently

to relieve pain, even in the extremities. Aided by electricity, it has reduced gouty and rheumatic swellings; and with the addition of the black ointment outwardly, obstinate callosities have been reduced by persevering attention.

His Black Pills.

Put eight quarts of good soot (from a chimney where green hard wood has been burned.) into five gallons of good vinegar and boil it till the strength of the soot is extracted. Then strain off the liquid and boil away two thirds of it, then add five pounds of beeswax, and seven pounds of honey, and boil the mixture down to the consistence of tar. Then add suitable proportions, of boxwood bark, rhubarb, aloes, and golden seal, and a small proportion of myrrh. This composition to make a suitable mass for pills

Fever Drops, Lotion, Consumption Drops, &c,

Believed to be nearly correct but not taken from his recipes.

Take of blue flag root, black cohush, and queen of the meadow, with such other articles as may be at hand, boil them in an iron kettle until a strong decoction is obtained; strain, and add while hot, sulphate of zink, sufficient to saturate the decoction, a small quantity of corrosive sublimate may be occasionally added; this preparation should be reduced to the strength required with strong green tea, and may be left a natural color or various coloring substances may be used according to the name it is destined to wear.

WHITE POWDERS,

Take pulverised oyster shells one part, and one part pulverized poke root, to which may be added, blue flag root, and unicorn root, or they may be omitted. This, if not the precise composition generally made, does not differ essentially from it. Dose, from five to fifteen grains.

FOR INFLAMMATORY RHEUMATISM.

Roots of queen of the meadow, black cohush, and wild sunflower, put into brandy.

MEDICAMENTUM,

May be made in the following manner.

Take tincture of cayenne pepper, tincture of hemlock gum, do. of myrrh and aloes, and mix them together, by guess, until judging by the taste and looks that the proportions are correct. Dose, a teaspoon full occasionally, to warm and strengthen the stomach.

STOMACH BALSAM.

The medicamentum, with the exception of the tincture of cayenne, other balsamic articles may be added at pleasure.

A large collection of *original* compounds, are occasionally used, but as the articles named, are the leading and essential ones, a knowledge of them may satisfy the curiosity of the inquisitive.

A REMEDY FOR SMALL-POX.—Dr. Frederick W. Morris, resident physician of the Halifax Visiting Dispensary, N. S., has written a letter to the American Medical Times, in which he states that the "*Sarracenia Purpurea*," or Indian cup, a native plant of Nova Scotia, is the remedy for small-pox in all its forms, curing in twelve hours after the patient has taken the medicine. That "however alarming and numerous the eruptions, or confluent and frightful they may be, the peculiar action of the medicine is such that very seldom is a scar left to tell the story of the disease. If either vaccine or variolous matter is washed with the infusion of the *sarracenia*, they are deprived of their contagious properties. So mild is the medicine to the taste that it may be largely mixed with tea and coffee and given to convalescents in these beverages to drink without their being aware of the admixture. The medicine has been successfully tried in the hospitals of Nova Scotia, and its use will be continued.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE



NLM 03193678 9